

Atlantis lands after 4-day flight

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE (R) — The space shuttle Atlantis, carrying five astronauts, landed safely here Monday, ending a four-day mission which launched the first U.S. planetary probe in more than a decade. Atlantis landed on a long runway in the middle of the Mojave desert at about 12:43 p.m. (1943 GMT), ending the 29th flight of the shuttle programme and the fourth since the 1986 Challenger disaster. Atlantis was 296 kilometres above the Indian Ocean when the shuttle's twin engines slowed the craft's speed of 28,000 kilometres per hour by 360 kilometres per hour. The braking dropped the spacecraft out of orbit and starting the shuttle's blazing, hourlong dive through the atmosphere. As the five astronauts were ending their 2.7-million-kilometre journey, the Magellan probe they released Monday was more than one million kilometres from earth on a 15-month, 13-billion-kilometre voyage to Venus to map its surface with super-sharp radar. The astronauts stayed up past bedtime Sunday to stow equipment after replacing a computer that quit during the mission's last full day in space, the only major glitch reported on the journey.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومنا سياسيا بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

PLO: Thatcher to meet Arafat

JEDDAH (AP) — A senior Palestinian official says preparations are under way for meeting between British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, a Saudi newspaper reported Monday. Bassam Abu Sharif, one of Arafat's closest advisers, was quoted as saying: "British officials have told me there is no obstacle to such a summit... and we are now preparing quietly to arrange for that meeting which, as British officials told me, will take place at the right time." In the interview in the daily Al Sharq Al Awwal, Abu Sharif also shrugged off British government denials of an imminent meeting between Arafat and British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe. The PLO spokesman was quoted as saying he found the denial "somewhat strange," adding: "My understanding from my meetings with a number of British officials indicate that a Palestinian-British summit is not excluded at all." Abu Sharif said in the interview conducted in Paris that he was heading for London to pursue talks he has held before with British officials, led by Minister of State William Waldegrave.

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Observers' arrival contingent on firm ceasefire

Beirut truce explodes

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Remorseless artillery bombardments battered Beirut and about 80 outlying towns and villages Monday in some of the most savage shelling of Lebanon's civil war.

A least 2,000 shells, rockets or mortar bombs smashed into western and eastern sectors of the divided capital, police said.

Police said 16 people were killed and 53 wounded in the non-stop bombardment that turned Beirut into a jungle of splintered concrete, burning apartment buildings, smoldering cars and dangling power cables.

The new casualties brought the overall toll of two months of fighting to 316 dead and 1,184 injured. Material losses have been estimated at about \$300 million.

As the battles resumed, sources in Tunis said the Arab League will delay sending ceasefire observers to Lebanon until the ceasefire called 10 days takes firm hold.

League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi wanted Lebanon's warring parties to immediately resume honouring a ceasefire that began April 28 and collapsed Sunday in fierce artillery duels, the sources said.

Lakhdar Ibrahim, Klibi's special Lebanon envoy, would probably visit Damascus and Beirut Monday or Tuesday in a bid to restore the ceasefire, they added.

He would be accompanied by Kuwaiti Brigadier Ali Al Moumen, head of the observer force.

On Monday morning the two men were still in Tunis after meetings at the league Sunday.

Lebanese security sources said scores of shells slammed into residential areas of Lebanon's Christian enclave, held by the troops of army commander Major-General Michel Aoun.

The deafening thump of outgoing shells shook west Beirut, controlled by the Syrian army, as people rushed for cover in panic.

"Here we go again, I had hoped they would give us a longer break, but they destroy all hopes," said a man hurrying back to a shelter in the capital's eastern sector.

Security sources said three people were killed in east Beirut and seven were wounded in the latest

barrages. Few shops had opened Monday after 12 hours of fierce artillery battles.

Streets were almost deserted as residents cleared rubble and broken glass from their homes. Others packed belongings and left by car for the relative safety of South Lebanon or remote mountain areas.

At least 100,000 of Beirut's 1.5 million people have fled since mid-March when the battles, the worst in Lebanon's 14 years of war, first flared between Aoun's soldiers and Syrian troops backed by Lebanese militias.

Arab diplomats said in Tunis Ibrahim would urge all parties to the fighting to honour the ceasefire so that the 321 observers from six Arab states could be deployed.

But militias have said they will not end the shelling until the observers arrive.

"When Lebanon's warring parties talk to Arab League envoys they promise to abide by the ceasefire," an Arab diplomat said. "Then when they get outside the door they do what they want."

He said that pressure from Arab heads of state, expected to meet at a summit in Morocco by early June, might be needed to resolve Lebanon's impasse.

Police said 21,500 shells and rockets were unleashed on Beirut's two sectors from dusk Saturday to midnight Sunday.

A police spokesman, who cannot be named under standing rules said 22 people were killed and 120 wounded in the 30-hour barrage.

Ibrahimi was returning to Damascus and Beirut Tuesday to try to patch up the ceasefire, Beirut newspaper reported.

"The Arabs now face the difficult task of shoring up the ceasefire. Otherwise the observers will have nothing to monitor," the police spokesman said.

Gaping holes were blown in scores of apartment buildings on both sides of Beirut's dividing green line. Hundreds of cars smoldered on streets blanketed with debris, glass shards and dangling power cables.

"They've destroyed everything I own," lamented Mahmoud Younis, a 30-year-old as he stared at his gutted electrical tools shop in west Beirut's Mosseibeh residential district. "I hope they will roast in hell, all of them."

One shell tore through the building that houses the west Beirut office of the British Reuters news agency, causing extensive material damage but no casualties, the agency's staff reported.

Israelis attack Arabs after funeral of soldier

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — More than 50 Israelis hurled stones at Arab cars outside the southern town of Ashdod Monday after the funeral of a soldier believed killed by Palestinian kidnappers.

Troops barred the 1.7 million Palestinians of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip from entering Israel for two days and confined Gaza residents to their homes indefinitely from Monday.

"We are dosing the areas to prevent uprising activities," the army spokesman said.

The stone throwing in Ashdod, the third show of Jewish anti-Arab crowd anger in a week, followed the funeral in the town of sergeant Avi Sasportaz, 21, who vanished while hitch-hiking home from his base in mid-February.

His body was found in a shallow grave in southern Israel Sunday by troops searching for another missing soldier who may have suffered the same fate.

Israel Radio said dozens of Ashdod residents unfurled an Israeli flag and tried to block a major route between Tel Aviv and the Gaza Strip.

The radio said three Israelis were arrested by police, who witnesses said numbered about 100. They put the number of stone-

throwers at more than 50.

The rear window of a car with Gaza licence plates was smashed by a large stone and another Gaza car was abandoned by the roadside, the witnesses said.

Ashdod police fired tear-gas Sunday night to disperse hundreds of protesters, mainly supporters of militant anti-Arab rabbi Meir Kahane, shouting "Death to the Arabs" and demanding "revenge" for the death of Sasportaz.

Israel Radio said preliminary findings showed Sasportaz was shot in the head several hours after he was taken Feb. 16 at the Hodiyya intersection some 35 kilometres southwest of Jerusalem.

Police have said they suspect Palestinians were involved in the cases of Sasportaz and Han Saadon, the second missing soldier.

On Monday, police also announced a 19-year-old West Bank Palestinian was arrested and being investigated as a suspect in the death of a 13-year-old Israeli boy in the coastal city of Jaffa. The suspect's name was withheld.

Sasportaz's death and the disappearance of Saadon triggered a wave of Jewish outbursts, with newspaper editorials accusing

Palestinians of turning to crimes in their uprising and local officials urging the firing of Arab workers. "We are losing our patients," Yitzhak Mordechai, who is in charge of Gaza, was quoted by the Hadashot daily as saying. "We will take a heavier hand so they won't reach a situation of making our lives intolerable."

Industry Minister Ariel Sharon was quoted as telling Israelis in the southern town of Dimona that these cases were the result of a "serious national blunder" in handling the 17-month-old Palestinian rebellion, in which 465 Palestinians and 21 Israelis have died.

In the Gaza Strip Monday, the army maintained curfews on more than 240,000 Palestinians in refugee camps in an effort to contain violent outbreaks in which 200 Palestinians suffered wounds from live ammunition in weekend clashes with soldiers, according to U.N. figures.

Saturday's wounded toll of 158, by U.N. count, was the highest daily figure since the start of the uprising Dec. 8, 1987.

In the Gaza Strip, troops shot and wounded nine Palestinian protesters during clashes in various centres Monday, hospital officials reported.

WHO seeks deal over PLO bid

GENEVA (Agencies) — Diplomats opened the World Health Organisation's (WHO) annual assembly Monday searching for a compromise on bid to enroll the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) State of Palestine in the organisation.

Zaire Health Minister Dr. Ngandu-Kabeya Dibandala, addressing the brief opening ceremony as president of last year's assembly, made no direct reference to the political controversy threatening to dominate the meeting.

But he said that the 166-nation agency "must avoid questions alien to health" in its efforts to raise the level of health throughout the world.

The United States, which funds one quarter of WHO's regular budget, has threatened to cease its financial support if the PLO's status of non-voting observer is changed into full membership.

WHO Director-General Hiroshi Nakajima made a surprise visit to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in Tunis but failed to persuade him to shelve the PLO's application to become a full member.

"We're going ahead (with the application). The instructions are to go ahead," PLO delegation chief Dr. Fathi Arafat told Reuters.

Fathi Arafat, brother of the PLO leader, sat at the general assembly of the 166-nation organisation behind the plaque "Palestine". The name was changed from PLO last December by a decision of the U.N. General Assembly.

Nakajima, saying that a cutoff of U.S. funds would destroy the agency, has pushed a draft resolution that would postpone consideration of the PLO application at least until next year.

Shortly before the session began, he discussed the issue with U.S. Health Secretary Louis Sullivan, chief of Washington's delegation.

"Nakajima is trying very hard to save his organisation," one Western diplomat said. "Western delegations, arguing that the PLO does not meet the requirements of statehood, generally support a postponement but it was not clear if such a move would be backed by a majority."

An African diplomat pointed out that the developing nations usually vote with the PLO.

The PLO question was due to come up first in a closed-door meeting of the agenda committee late Monday.



'EID PRAYERS: His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Their Royal Highnesses Prince Abdullah and Prince Faisal, Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and

senior officials attend prayers on the first day of 'Eid Al Fitr. The 'Eid holiday ends Tuesday (see page 3)

Shanshal named Iraqi defence minister

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has appointed Major-General Abdul Jabbar Shanshal as defence minister to replace Gen. Adnan Khairallah, who was killed in a helicopter crash Friday.

Shanshal, had been minister of state for military affairs. Shanshal had been chief of staff in the Iraqi army in the early years of the Iran-Iraq war that ended in a ceasefire last August.

Khairallah, the president's cousin and brother-in-law had also been deputy commander in chief and deputy prime minister.

A presidential decree announced on Baghdad Television named no replacement for Khairallah's post as deputy commander-in-chief of the

armed forces.

Gen. Shanshal, in his late 60s, was chief of the army staff for more than 10 years until 1983 when he was named state minister for military affairs.

Khairallah was returning alone to Baghdad after a two-day tour with Hussein and his family of the autonomous Kurdistan region of northern Iraq.

Hussein said in a presidential decree that Khairallah's helicopter crashed after its pilots lost control during the sand storm.

Jordan expressed deep sympathy with Iraq over the death of Khairallah.

His Majesty King Hussein delegated His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker to take part in the

funeral in Baghdad on Saturday to convey condolences to the Iraqi president and the bereaved family.

King Hussein called the Iraqi president by telephone Sunday evening to express his deepest sorrow over the death of Khairallah. "Iraq's loss with the death of the late army commander is a loss for the whole Arab Nation," the King said in his telephone call.

Earlier, the King sent a cable to President Hussein paying tribute to Khairallah, "who was a hero of the Arab Nation and fell after accomplishing his duty in the eight-year war against the Iranian invasion and after leading his forces to victory."

"On behalf of the whole Jordanian family, I send you deepest sympathy on the loss of

the great man who fought heroically alongside his brothers in arms in defence of the sacred soil of the Arab Nation," the King said.

ACC summit postponed
A conference of the heads of state of Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen scheduled for next Wednesday was postponed indefinitely, the state-run Middle East News Agency (MENA) said Sunday.

Quoting Information Minister Safwat Al Sherif, MENA said the four states, forming the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC), decided to postpone the summit to express the sympathy of member states for the death of Iraq's defence minister.

The summit was originally scheduled to take place in Alexandria.

Zhao praises students, pledges process of reforms

BEIJING (AP) — Communist Party General Secretary Zhao Ziyang Monday praised students who have returned to class after three weeks of pro-democracy protests, saying it showed "increasing reason."

Zhao also promised that China would proceed with political reform, which has lagged well behind decentralisation of the economy.

Although the ruling party has made some effort to separate its work from that of the government and replace arbitrary decision-making with laws, the government remains mainly the executor of decisions made by a few top party leaders.

Economic and political restructuring should "support each other," the official Xinhua news agency quoted Zhao as telling a visiting Turkish delegation.

The tens of thousands of students who have held marches,

sit-ins and other protests over the past three weeks have demanded that the pace of political reform be stepped up and that basic freedoms such as the right to speak and a free press be protected. They also called for an end to worsening official corruption.

"Many of the demands voiced by the students represent problems that the party and government are trying to solve," Zhao said, without mentioning specifics.

"The situation (of the protests) has been prevented from becoming acute because the party and government have all along adopted a very tolerant and restrained attitude, and because most students have acted with increasing reason," he said.

Since a massive march Thursday on Tiananmen Square, many students' activists have said they will change tactics and concentrate

on spreading their message of democracy to the public rather than marching.

The only protest still continuing is a class boycott at Beijing University, China's most prestigious school. Activists there said about 70 per cent of the school's more than 10,000 students remained out of class Monday.

Most other students in Beijing have ended the boycott, which began April 24.

Beijing students also have continued to press their appeal for a formal dialogue with the government on political reform and democracy.

Members of a new group called the Student Dialogue Representative Group, established by about 30 universities specifically to pursue a dialogue, met for nearly an hour Monday with officials at the government reception department.

Panama vote counting crawls; both candidates claim victory

PANAMA CITY (R) — Vote-counting in Panama crawled Monday as opposition figures and observers reported some tally sheets had disappeared in the night after both presidential candidates claimed victory.

The election was considered a plebiscite on the de facto rule of military leader General Manuel Antonio Noriega, accused by the U.S. administration and the opposition of preparing massive fraud to assure victory for his supporters.

About 18 hours after the polls closed, the national counting board announced it had not received any tally sheets from regional counting centres.

Electoral tribunal officials said Monday morning the board was in recess and issued a call on national radio for counting at the polling centres to move forward.

"We have not received any circuit tally sheets. For that reason we exhort those in the circuit counting boards to hurry and bring us the tallies," an election official said in a broadcast on national radio.

Counting takes place at three levels. Tallies are made up at polling stations and passed on to circuit levels, where new tallies are made and sent to the national counting board.

On Sunday night both presidential candidates claimed victory.

Government candidate Carlos Duque cited an exit poll by a Madrid-based company giving him 50.9 per cent of the vote and opposition candidate Guillermo Endara 44.73 per cent.

The Democratic Opposition Alliance (ADO), however, said its own count gave the opposition 67 per cent of the vote and the ruling National Liberation coal-

ition 23 per cent.

A European delegation of election observers said they could not understand what was slowing the count.

"We are profoundly perplexed that at this time of the morning, after the polling centres closed at 5 p.m. (2300 GMT) last night, the national counting board announces they don't have the tallies," said Fernando Suarez, the Spanish head of the delegation.

He said the delegation was investigating reports that a polling centre in the suburb of San Miguelito had been raided overnight by military police who confiscated and destroyed tallies there.

Senator John McCain, a Republican member of an observer delegation sent here by President George Bush, called the electoral process "incredibly bad."

Kidnappers convey demands to Bonn

AAQBIH, Lebanon (AP) — Two West German relief workers said Monday they were freed from brief captivity last week to transmit the demands of the kidnappers holding a third West German hostage in South Lebanon.

It was first time the pair, Heinrich Struwig and Petra Schmitzler, met with the press since they were abducted by five gunmen on the outskirts of South Lebanon's provincial capital of Saida Thursday night and freed the next morning.

They said the kidnappers were holding Markus Quint, another Asme-Humanitas relief worker abducted with them.

"We were freed in the early morning of May 5 to transmit the orders of the kidnappers to the responsible authorities in West Germany," said an English statement they handed out.

"They refused to spell out the demands at the news conference in the private organisation's seaside compound here."

"We can't and we don't want to give any further information about this case now, because we don't want to endanger the life of Markus Quint," the statement said.

Its identification of the captive as Quint dispelled the confusion that followed his initial identification by Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials as Michael Markus.

West German press reports said Quint, in his early 20s, was the cook for the six-member Asme-Humanitas team that extends medical care mainly to Palestinian refugees in the camps of Ain Al-Hilweh and Mich Mich.

In Bonn, West German officials said Monday the demands had been relayed from the two via Lebanese officials.

The 12... note with satisfaction the total rejection of such declarations by the highest leaders of the Palestine Liberation Orga-

هولاء منة الى اصل

Mauritania demands Senegal pay damages

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (Agencies) — Mauritania President Maayoua Ould Sid Ahmed Taya says Senegal is to blame for a recent outbreak of violence that left at least 260 citizens of the two countries dead.

In a radio broadcast Sunday night the Mauritanian leader also demanded reparations.

Taya said the official Senegalese news media inflamed the situation by giving a distorted account of events after an April 9 incident in which two Senegalese farmers were killed. Some reports said the farmers were killed by Mauritanian border guards; others said rival farmers killed them.

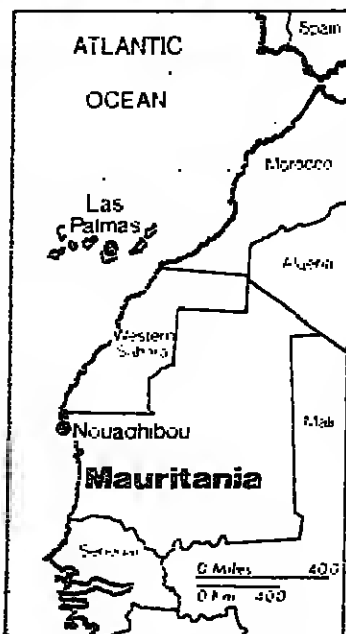
The border incident set off a wave of violence that ultimately forced an international airlift to bring thousands of Mauritanian nationals home from Senegal and Senegalese home from Mauritania.

Taya, in a broadcast in Arabic monitored here, said Senegalese authorities should pay compensation to Mauritanians forced to flee Senegal and return money confiscated from them.

"The Mauritanian government and people do not bear any responsibility in those tragic events. On the contrary, Mauritania continued to seek the prevention of clashes and the saving of innocents," Taya said.

"The Senegalese authorities must immediately return the significant sums of money confiscated from our compatriots when they left Dakar and the border areas. The Senegalese authorities must also fairly compensate our compatriots who were displaced for all of their plundered property," he added.

Many of the shops in the Senegalese capital of Dakar were operated by Mauritanians who were forced to flee during the violence.



Senegalese close ranks

The ethnic flare-up with Mauritania has narrowed the gap between its government and opposition but may have pushed Mauritania further into the Arab fold, analysts say.

For the first time in a year Senegalese politicians presented a united front during the crisis, the country's worst dispute with Mauritania.

"The opposition has at last resumed some kind of dialogue with President Abdou Diouf who has skillfully used the anti-Mauritanian feelings to encourage a rapprochement with the opposition," a Western diplomat said.

Senegal, one of Africa's few multi-party democracies, has been torn apart by bitter domestic differences since a general election in February 1988.

The opposition, split into 16 political parties, said the polls had been rigged in favour of

Diouf's Socialist Party.

Abdoulaye Wade, leader of the centrist PDS party, has led the opposition campaign against Diouf. But the troubles with Mauritania have increased support for Diouf.

Last week up to 11 opposition parties issued a joint statement expressing concern over the risk of war and calling on the eight million Senegalese to stop the violence. They also urged both governments to settle the dispute peacefully.

As looting and killings continued, opposition leaders including Amath Dansokho, the leader of the pro-Soviet PIT party and a close ally of Wade, held separate talks with Diouf.

Political sources said Wade, who failed twice to unseat Diouf as president, has refrained from his usual fiery anti-government statements. Instead he called for African mediation and humanitarian assistance from France.

Senegal's government and opposition have blamed Mauritania for the deaths of the two Senegalese farmers in the dispute that led to the escalation of ethnic tension. But both countries have been careful to maintain diplomatic relations, stressing the close inter-dependency of the two economies.

Regional analysts and Senegalese fear that Mauritania, where light-skinned Moors make up two-thirds of the two million population, might move away from Africa and towards its Arab neighbours.

Mauritania, a country straddling Arab black Africa, is ruled by army officers who joined the five-state Arab Maghreb Union set up in February. The move prompted concern among the Negro-African minority who already resent the political and economic domination of Moors of Arab and Berber descent.



A Senegalese soldier orders a Mauritanian woman carrying her baby to pick up her belongings at a trade centre outside Dakar where thousands of Mauritanians were housed before evacuated home.

Senegal's state media has accused Mauritania of taking advantage of last week's international airlift to deport scores of its

own black nationals, including some senior government employees.

S. Arabia rules out bigger Iran Haj quota

NICOSIA (R) — Saudi Arabia has ruled out an increase in the number of Iranians allowed to attend this year's Haj pilgrimage but denied claims by Tehran officials that it was trying to exclude them altogether.

"These are false allegations," the Saudi Press Agency quoted an official source in the pilgrimage ministry as saying Sunday. "Saudi Arabia welcomes the Iranian pilgrims to this year's Haj as long as Iran sticks to its 45,000 quota."

The official also said Riyadh would use Islamic law to punish those responsible for any disturbances this year.

"Saudi Arabia refuses to endanger the lives of pilgrims in the Holy City of Mecca by demonstrations and violence...and it will use Islamic Sharia for punishment," the agency quoted him as saying.

More than 400 people, mostly Iranians, were killed in clashes with security forces during a political demonstration by Iranians at the 1987 Haj.

Iran boycotted last year's event when Saudi Arabia refused to increase the 45,000 quota approved by the Organisation of Islamic Conference.

Mohammad Khatami, Iranian minister of Islamic culture and guidance, demanded Wednesday that Riyadh lift curbs on the number of Iranians and said they should be allowed to stage demonstrations.

Khatami said the Saudis should accept more than 150,000 Iranians this year.

The ministry source in Riyadh said Saudi Arabia would not raise the quota because "this will cause disturbance in the measures taken for organising pilgrims."

Saudi Arabia broke diplomatic ties with Iran a year ago, accusing it of hostile acts. Relations had improved in recent months before the issue of this year's Mecca quota was aired.

Last year Riyadh beheaded four Saudi Arabians accused of having Iranian links. It said they were involved in sabotaging oil installations.



Sultan Qaboos

Qaboos extends qualified backing for summit

JEDDAH (AP) — Sultan Qaboos Ibn Said of Oman said in an interview published Monday he would not attend this month's emergency Arab summit unless its objectives were clear-cut.

"If this summit is to be developed in ambiguity I might have reservations about attending because what concerns me personally is to emerge with definite results that serve Arab objectives," Sultan Qaboos was quoted as saying in an interview with the Saudi Arabian newspaper Al Sharq Al Awsat.

The summit is set for later this month in Morocco. Arab leaders are expected to discuss joint efforts to end Lebanon's 14-year-old civil war and align a stance on a Palestinian settlement.

No precise date or venue for the summit has been announced, but the United Arab Emirates' official newspaper, Al Ittihad, said Monday it would be held May 29-31 in Casablanca.

Sultan Qaboos said that if he did not attend, Oman would be represented at a lower level.

Several Arab leaders have backed the convening of the summit, among them King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, who said recently it was beneficial for them to meet periodically.

The emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa, welcomed the summit but insisted that foreign ministers of the 22-member Arab League should prepare the ground in advance to ensure "decisive resolutions" on issues that would be raised.

Qaboos, who will soon make a six-state Arab and international tour, also said that Arab countries should make the most of improved relations between the superpowers.

"The prevailing international climate no doubt provides a valuable opportunity in the interest of regional issues... and the Middle East issue is one of these that concerns us Arabs."

"The situation dictates that we exploit the opportunity well in the interest of our causes," he was quoted as saying.

Qaboos is to visit Kuwait, Jordan, Egypt, France, Spain and Britain for talks on international issues as well as the Middle East, Lebanon and bilateral cooperation.

Oman is also preparing to host this year's annual summit conference of the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) alliance which also includes Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates.

He said the GCC would work to ensure that the eight-month-old ceasefire between Iran and Iraq turns into "a lasting peace."

The prevailing ceasefire would enable the GCC summit to "crystallise many views... to contribute effectively in finding a permanent settlement to the Iraq-Iran conflict," he said.

He said that he was convinced from Oman's contacts with Tehran during the Gulf war that the Iranians "have a real desire for peace and security in the region."

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Israel wants Palestinian goods marked

TEL AVIV (R) — A leading Israeli industrialist has asked that goods made in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip be marked so Israelis can decide if they wish to buy them, Israel Radio said Monday. Michael Strauss, head of the food division of Israel's manufacturers association, said it was ridiculous that while Palestinians boycotted Israeli products, Israelis had no way of telling whether they were buying Israeli or Palestinian goods, the radio said. Strauss asked the ministry of industry to require that products made in the occupied territories be clearly labelled as such. Goods such as pasta, candies and cigarettes are manufactured in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and marked with Israeli labels, Palestinian manufacturers have begun producing their own brands of many products, responding to calls by underground leaders of the uprising to produce and use home-grown goods.

Paris denies talks on Osirak

PARIS (R) — The French government said Sunday Iraq had recently approached Paris to rebuild a nuclear reactor destroyed by the Israelis in 1981. But it denied an Iraqi statement that the two countries were negotiating to reconstruct the Osirak reactor. A spokesman for the French Foreign Ministry said the Iraqi authorities had in the past approached France, which has Europe's largest nuclear industry, about Osirak. "The question was recently raised once again by the Iraqis... but there have not been any negotiations on the issue between France and Iraq," he added. Iraqi Industry Minister Colonel Hussein Kamel Hassan was earlier quoted by the Egyptian newspaper Al Akhbar as saying Paris and Baghdad were negotiating to rebuild the reactor. Iraq bombed the reactor before it was completed, saying it was intended to help produce atomic weapons. But Hassan said Sunday Iraq needed the reactor for peaceful purposes. "We have warned Israel twice. Anyone who may try to attack Iraq will find a suitable response," Hassan said.

Morocco frees 228 prisoners

RABAT (R) — King Hassan of Morocco has pardoned 228 prisoners jailed for up to 30 years for plotting to topple him, rioting or staging strikes, an official source said. A government spokesman said 50 political prisoners among those granted an amnesty to mark the 'Eid Al Fitr were members of two outlawed extreme leftist movements but had repented. Some of them belonged to the Itla-Amnam (Forward) movement, a Marxist-Leninist group, and were jailed for as many as 30 years by a Casablanca court in 1977 for plotting to overthrow the monarchy. Other political prisoners included in the king's amnesty were members of the underground left-wing March 23 group, named after bloody riots on that date in Casablanca in 1965. Opposition party sources said about 200 political prisoners remained in Morocco. The king also granted pardons to 178 people jailed for taking part in bread riots in Casablanca in 1981, or for staging strikes in the education and health services in 1979, the source said. Teachers and health service employees dismissed after the 1979 strikes, during which schools in much of the country were vandalised, will now get their jobs back.

Greek-Cypriot trooper kills himself

NICOSIA (AP) — A Greek-Cypriot soldier apparently shot himself Sunday after he fired across the green line that divides the capital and wounded a Turkish-Cypriot soldier, according to the United Nations spokesman. "The preliminary indications are that the National Guard soldier fired several shots," said Charles Gaulkin, spokesman for the U.N. peacekeeping force that patrols the buffer zone on the war-divided island. "He apparently hit the Turkish soldier in the right leg and then shot himself." Gaulkin said the investigation was continuing into the incident at the 40-metre buffer zone in the Kaymakli district of the capital. "We have no indication of why he shot himself," he said. The Cyprus government denied that the Greek-Cypriot fired across the buffer zone. The Defence Ministry issued an official statement saying that Nikolas Michaelides, a 19-year-old from Nicosia, was standing guard on the green line at 5:30 a.m. (0230 GMT) when he died. The statement said Michaelides died from a self-inflicted wound either by accident or suicide. Turkey's semi-official news agency Anatolia said that Erbil Kavran, 20, from Kyrenia, was in serious condition after being shot in the leg.

SPLA rejects Khartoum plan to enforce ceasefire

ADDIS ABABA (Agencies) — Sudanese rebels Monday rejected the government's offer to set up a joint committee to enforce a ceasefire proposed last week.

Responding to the proposal, Nehal Deng, spokesman for the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), said the rebels would meet with the government only to implement a broader peace pact they reached last November with one of the parties in Sudan's governing coalition.

The SPLA announced a unilateral, one-month ceasefire a week ago, and Saturday Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi

offered to end the country's state of emergency and establish a joint committee to enforce the truce.

"As long as the provisions of the (November) peace initiatives are not implemented, it is premature to talk about a joint technical military committee," Nehal said.

The November agreement reached between the SPLA and leaders of the Democratic Unionist Party, the second largest in the government, calls for a freeze on Khartoum's plans to implement Islamic law, an end to the state of emergency, a constitutional

convention and the abrogation of military pacts with Libya and Egypt.

The SPLA, which is backed by Ethiopia, has been fighting since 1983 against what it sees as the domination of Sudan's south by the north.

In a public speech late Saturday, Mahdi also announced he would lift the state of emergency.

He said details for ending the state of emergency, imposed since a military coup ousted President Jaafar Numeiri in April 1985, would be discussed at a proposed May 15 meeting.

Deng Alor, spokesman for the SPLA, objected to Mahdi's

plan Sunday said. "The prime minister cannot decide to send a delegation of military officers and discuss just a ceasefire."

In a telephone conversation from Addis Ababa, Alor told the Associated Press: "The prime minister cannot skip any of the provisions in the agreement. He has to abolish Islamic law, cancel military pacts with foreign powers, Egypt and Libya, and lift the state of emergency."

"What he did is ignore the first two (conditions)."

He also denied that Sudan had contacted the SPLA to arrange for a May 15 meeting,

and said he was expecting a Sudanese ministerial peace committee to discuss the November agreement.

In his speech, Mahdi said his government had honoured an agreement to suspend Islamic laws, the final status of which, he said, would be negotiated with the SPLA.

Referring to defence pacts with Libya and Egypt, Mahdi described them as "unbiased agreements" that could be settled in direct negotiations between the two parties.

In March, Mahdi said a joint defence treaty with Egypt had effectively ended with the overthrow of Numeiri in 1985.

Baker to seek superpower cooperation in Mideast

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State James Baker is about to launch his first diplomatic venture on Soviet soil with an appeal for superpower cooperation in Central America and the Middle East and a challenge to Mikhail S. Gorbachev to make his "new thinking" a reality.

Baker also will propose that the superpowers resume in June their work on a treaty to reduce long-range nuclear weapons by 30-to-50 per cent.

But his focus primarily will be on regional problems that a close aide Friday said were growing to "frightening" proportions.

Baker will ask the Soviets to join the United States in backing direct negotiations between Palestinians and Israelis and to curb the \$500 million in military aid Moscow gave to Nicaragua's Marxist government last year.

Baker, who held his first meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze in

March in Vienna, has never been to the Soviet Union in private or public life.

The trip to Moscow also will be the first for Robert M. Gates, the deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), who will accompany Baker along with officials of the Pentagon, the State Department and the National Security Council.

One of the issues projected for discussion in Moscow is a joint approach to terrorism. Baker hopes to persuade the Soviets to end their alleged financial support to countries that sponsor terrorism. A group of U.S. experts is planning to go to Moscow later in the spring for further talks.

Baker set the tone for his trip in a speech Thursday in Washington in which he contrasted the "new thinking" that has marked the Gorbachev era with "the reality of both Soviet capabilities and actions."

He said the Soviets continue to pose a significant military threat to Western interests, and he portrayed Gorbachev's unilateral force reductions in Eastern Europe as still leaving the Warsaw Pact with a 2-to-1 edge in tanks and artillery.

Baker also said it was too early to tell whether Gorbachev's restructuring of the economy, known as perestroika, will succeed.

Baker's schedule will give him high visibility. Besides meetings with Shevardnadze Wednesday and Thursday mornings and a two-hour session with Gorbachev Thursday afternoon, several public events are planned to enhance his knowledge of Soviet affairs and get his views across to the Soviet people.

These include an interview on Soviet Television, meetings with Soviet parliamentarians and dissidents, and an inspection of the

U.S. embassy in Moscow that will revive allegations the Soviets planted eavesdropping devices.

Baker was to fly to Helsinki Monday and relaxes there and meets with Finnish officials until his departure for Moscow Wednesday morning. On his way home he will stop in Brussels to brief Western allies at NATO headquarters.

A Soviet Foreign ministry spokesman has expressed hope that Baker's visit would speed up superpower negotiations.

But a senior Soviet commentator suggested that the Bush administration was more lukewarm than that of Ronald Reagan in its attitude towards the Soviet Union.

Alexei Obukhov, head of the Foreign Ministry's U.S. and Canada Department, told the TASS news agency Saturday that he hoped Washington and Moscow could build on important

bilateral agreements signed in recent years.

"At present this process is developing less actively than before," he said.

"The new U.S. administration paused to analyse foreign political priorities which is quite normal. Now it is necessary to step up the negotiating process in all spheres, I hope that Baker's visit will lead to it."

Commentator Alexander Bavin, writing in the government daily Izvestia Saturday, said the impression emerging from the Bush administration was one of less enthusiasm for warm relations with Moscow.

"In general, one gets the impression that the train of U.S.-Soviet relations will still be travelling in the same direction but that the American co-driver is proposing to reduce speed somewhat," he wrote. "At least at first."

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran

15:40 Programme review

15:45 Children programmes

17:00 Educational programme

18:00 Religious programme

18:05 News summary in Arabic

18:10 Programme on world news

18:20 Programme on children

19:10 Agricultural programme

19:45 Programme review

20:00 News in Arabic

20:30 Arabic series

21:40 Programme review

22:30 Local programme

23:00 Arabic programme

23:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Les Années d'Illusion

19:00 News in French

19:15 Stratégie

19:30 News in Hebrew

20:00 News in Arabic

20:30 Piece of Cake

21:10 Hii Sound

22:00 News in English

22:30 Hunter

PRAYER TIMES

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

A slight rise in temperature is expected with the appearance of some low clouds during the day; winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Amman Min./max. temp. 10 / 24

Agaba 18 / 31

Deserts 10 / 26

Jordan Valley 16 / 30

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 21, Agaba 31. Humidity readings: Amman 33 per cent, Agaba 35 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Sami George 679480

Dr. Sa'ad Abu Hatab 638612

Dr. Kayad Abu Halayfeh 693222

Dr. Mahmoud Abu Mahfouz 793344

Firas pharmacy 661912

Ferdous pharmacy 778336

Al Asma pharmacy 637055

Naioukh pharmacy 623672

Al Salam pharmacy 636730

Yacoub pharmacy 644945

Shemsani pharmacy 637661

IRBID:

Dr. Isam Al Saleh (—)

Al Sharaa pharmacy (985238)

ZARQA:

Dr. Nash'at Ammari 982680

Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111

Civil Defence Immediate 630341

Rescue 62390/93

Fire Brigade 621111, 637777

Police 62390/93

Blood Bank 634027

Highway Police 656390/91

Traffic Police 656390/91

Public Security Department 656000 / 685111

Hotel Complaints 605800

Price Complaints 661176

Water and Sewerage 661176

Complaints 897467

Amman Municipality 602240/50

Complaints 787111

Telephone Information (directory assistance) 12

Overseas Calls 17

Central Amman Telephone 623101

Repairs 661101

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 731111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power 636381

RJ Flight Information 18-53200

Queen Aila Intl. Airport 18-52000

HOSPITALS

Registration for haj ends May 20

Jordan proposes ACC cooperation in Islamic affairs

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs has prepared a memorandum which details about forms of cooperation in Awqaf and Islamic matters among the four-member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries, Jordan, Iraq, Egypt and North Yemen.

A report in the local press said that the memorandum calls for unifying legislations and regulations concerning the work of the ministries of Islamic affairs in the four states, and other matters related to orphans and preaching in Mosques.

The memorandum suggested closer cooperation in the publication of Islamic materials, organising Islamic book exhibitions and other activities to highlight Islamic culture.

The memorandum proposed a plan to help the ministries of Islamic affairs in the four coun-

tries to confront subversive elements and actions considered harmful to the Islamic faith, and urged cooperation in the construction of mosques and preserving Islamic places like the tombs of the companions of the Prophet Mohammad.

Furthermore, the ministry's memorandum suggested ways for cooperation among ACC countries in matters related to pilgrimages to holy places in Mecca and Medina.

Earlier, the Ministry of Awqaf announced that May 20 will be the last day for registering would-be pilgrims for this year's pilgrimage to Mecca. Registration, which is being undertaken by the ministry, started on April 9 when the Minister of Awqaf announced that 18 transport companies will be involved in transporting pilgrims via land to and from the

holy places in Saudi Arabia.

Pilgrimage to Mecca normally precedes the 'Eid Al Adha feast (feast of sacrifice) which is celebrated in Mecca at the end of the pilgrimage rites, and falls 70 days after 'Eid Al Fitr which fell last Saturday.

The Ministry of Awqaf has made preparations also for receiving pilgrims from the occupied Arab territories who are to be housed at a camp in the Jordan Valley and Syrian and Turkish pilgrims travelling by land who cross the Syrian border and are housed at the Ramtha pilgrims town.

This year, all would-be pilgrims will have to produce certificates providing that they have been vaccinated against meningitis in accordance with instructions issued by the Saudi Arabian authorities.

When Father Time quickens his step

By Ghadeer Taher
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — If it feels like you got one hour less of your usual and essential beauty sleep, your institutions are quiet correct: daylight saving time, alias summertime, is here once again in Jordan. So you are advised to readjust your sleeping hours because summertime will stay with us for six long months.

Jordan's switch to summertime for the fifth consecutive year after a seven-year break came into force as part of a government drive to conserve energy and thus reduce the Kingdom's fuel import bill.

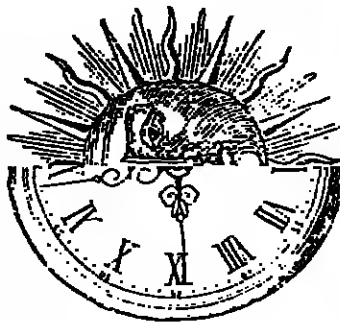
The energy saving possibility comes at an essential time for the cash-strapped country which has a severe shortage of hard foreign currency. The prices of fuel have already been hiked dramatically, approximately 20 per cent — in order to address the budget deficit and to meet requirements set by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in an economic adaptation programme the Kingdom agreed with the fund in April in an effort to reschedule its \$6 billion foreign debt and rationalise consumption patterns in the Kingdom.

It is estimated that by adopting summertime, Jordan will save one hour of energy a day consumed for lighting by reducing the need for artificial light during the evening in the domestic sector. Translated into figures, it means 20 per cent savings in energy and approximately JD 2 million in hard currency.

Studies indicate that power consumption per capita in the Kingdom is one of the highest in the developing world. The industrial sector, however, is not expected to be effected by the switch since most factories and plants follow a set number of working hours regardless of the change of time.

Royal Jordanian, the country's national carrier, will not be changing to the daylight savings time as far as flight schedules are concerned since they are linked with Greenwich Mean Time, which is now three hours behind Jordan Time.

The practice of adopting daylight-savings time dates back to World War I when many countries in Western Europe used it as a way to conserve precious resources during wartime, according to Encyclopaedia Britannica. Daylight-savings time was first



adopted in the U.S. during World War II. All clocks were kept ahead of Standard Time for the interval of Feb. 9, 1942-Sept. 30, 1945 with no changes made in summer. Beginning 1967, by act of Congress, the U.S. has observed daylight-savings time but leaves the final decision to individual states.

"Political time"

Syria and Israel switched to summer time in April. But in the occupied territories, the transition was not exactly very smooth. Palestinians living in Arab Jerusalem, Ramallah, Bethlehem and Beit Jalla complained two weeks ago that their watches had been smashed by Israeli policemen and soldiers because they were set according to "Palestinian time," which was adopted by the Palestinians this year earlier than the Israelis as yet another sign of Palestinian independence.

A leaflet issued by the leadership of the Palestinian uprising called on the Palestinians to move their watches forward by one hour on April 15 to mark summertime in the State of Palestine.

Palestinians in various parts of the West Bank, East Jerusalem and also in the Gaza Strip were following the new summertime.

According to Palestinian reports there have been more than a dozen incidents in which troops broke watches of Palestinians with clubs. Soldiers or policemen would ask a passerby for the time and when given the "Palestinian time" would either smash the Palestinian's watch, or beat him or her, according to news reports.

There might be some initial resentment at having to readjust to the new time schedules in Jordan but the irritation, caused by novelty, will soon wear off and the next switch, to winter time, is a long way off. Remember, it's all for the national good.



His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ibn Al Hussein and Prime Minister

Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Saturday perform the early morning 'Eid Al Fitr prayers at King Abdullah Mosque in Amman.

'Eid Al Fitr holiday ends today

King attends 'Eid prayers, receives good wishes

AMMAN (J.T.) — Work at government departments and public institutions return to normal Tuesday following a three-day holiday on 'Eid Al Fitr which marked the end of the holy month of Ramadan.

The feast was celebrated at various mosques around the country, with the main celebration held at King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein mosque in Amman.

His Majesty King Hussein attended the prayers along with huge crowds of worshippers, and heard a sermon by Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Secretary General Ahmad Hilayel in which he echoed the King's call on the Jordanian public to double their efforts for reconstruction and development.

The preacher sent greetings to the oppressed people of Palestine under Israeli occupation rule, and expressed Jordan's appreciation to Arab countries which displayed solidarity with Jordan in the face of its economic hardships.

Attending the prayers with the King were His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, Prince Faisal Ibn Al Hussein, Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi and other senior officials.

Following the prayers at the mosque, the King met with worshippers who expressed their good wishes on the feast.

Accompanied by Prince Hassan and several members of the Royal family, King Hussein later visited the tombs of the late Kings Abdullah and King Talal where he laid wreaths and recited verses from the Holy Koran.

King Hussein later met at Al Hussein Youth City with high ranking officers of the armed forces, the general intelligence, Civil Defence and Public Security departments as well as the Palestine Liberation Army in Jordan.

Prince Hassan, Sharif Zaid and the Army Chief of Staff Fahd Abu Taleh were present at the reception in which the King exchanged greetings and good wishes with the officers on the feast.

The Royal Court announced that King Hussein received cables of good wishes on the occasion from Kings and heads of state of various Arab and friendly nations.

Government and private schools will remain closed Tuesday and re-open for students on Wednesday.



His Majesty King Hussein Saturday accepts 'Eid good wishes from army officers at Al Hussein Sports City in Amman.

Bulgarian troupe entertains RJ's Gateway guests

AMMAN (J.T.) — A 21-Bulgarian folk troupe is in town presenting performances before the Jordanian public in the course of a 10-day stay in the Kingdom at the invitation of Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national Jordanian airline.

The first performance was presented Saturday at Alia Gateway Hotel near the Queen Alia International Airport where the troupe is staying.

The performance, on the first

day of Eid Al Fitr, was watched by Tourism Minister Yanal Hikmat and Bulgarian embassy staff who enjoyed Bulgarian national folk dancing, modern dancing in addition to acrobatic and gymnastic shows.

The hotel director Nazih Dabhas said that the performances were in implementation of a Bulgarian-Jordanian cultural agreement which also provides for an exchange of visits by cultural and artistic folk troupes, publications, and the organisation of national folkloric activities in either country.

Dabhas said that the festival was part of RJ's endeavours to encourage tourism and interaction between Jordanian and other cultures. A hotel spokesman told the Jordan Times that the Bulgarian troupe will wind up their stay in the country on May 16 when they will fly back home.

Development of downtown soon

AMMAN (J.T.) — Work on a JD 4 million project for the development of the central parts of Amman is expected to start this week, according to a municipality spokesman quoted by Sawt Al Shaab daily.

The report said that soon after Eid Al Fitr holiday teams of workers will be employed in the work which covers an area of 1,820 dunjums extending from Ashrafia and Jofa to Lweibdeh and Ras Al Ain districts.

Last January, the government authorised the municipality to embark on the project, details of which were presented by Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh who said that the project will have to be carried out in stages to use such development is costly and requires a long time to complete.

Rawabdeh said that the municipality proposes to link Rida and Saqf Al Sail streets, widen Shab-sough street and link it with King Ghazi street and assign Basman

street for service cars among other changes. The plan, he said, entails enlarging the streets in question and widening pavements for pedestrians. Such a solution can help reduce congestion and ease the flow of cars and traffic into and out of the central districts of the capital.

According to the municipality spokesman, the central areas of the city experienced landslides in the past decade and its old and dilapidated buildings could collapse in tremors. At least 6,200 homes are found in the area which lacks proper public services for the 38,000 inhabitants, the spokesman said.

Many stores selling a variety of goods exist alongside archaeological sites which need to be restored and fenced off, said the spokesman.

In addition, he said, the area is congested with cars and pedestrians, and according to municipality estimates, up to 4,000 vehi-

cles pass through this area at any of the rush hours. The development of this area, he added, is designed to deal with a long list of problems which include: lack of space for worshippers at Al Hussein Mosque, the lack of municipal services and the difficulty to reach the heart of the city.

There is need to find pedestrian paths, to improve the condition of schools and public utilities, to facilitate the flow of traffic, to improve the condition of roads and alleys, to find car and bus parks and improve the general condition of traffic within the area of central Amman. According to the spokesman the coming development programme will solve the present problems for the coming two decades.

Press to use shift system

AMMAN (J.T.) — Information Minister Nasouh Majali has said that the Ministry of Information adopted a decision providing for the issuance of one newspaper during the days of long holidays on a rotational basis among the dailies. In a statement to Arabic daily Sawt Al Sha'b, Majali said that citizens have the right to follow events continuously and

under any circumstances. Jordan Press Association President Hashem Khreisat, on his part, said that this step necessitates extra effort on the part of the papers employees. This step was adopted following repeated requests by the readers and profound consideration. Khreisat added. It is a sacrifice the readers deserve, he noted.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

INJURED: Egypt's Ambassador to Jordan Ihab Mugbil Sunday sustained head bruises and rib fractures when the car he was driving overturned on the Cairo-Alexandria highway. His daughter also sustained injuries. The ambassador was taken to Ras Al Tin Hospital in Alexandria to receive medical treatment (Petra)

CELEBRATIONS: On the 74th anniversary of the Great Arab Revolt, the Armed Forces Morale Guidance Department will hold the first seminar on 13-15 June. According to Al Dustour daily a number of participants will make presentations covering various aspects of the Revolt (J.T.)

FINAL EXAMS: The final examinations for the second semester at Yarmouk University will begin on May 17 and run through May 24, according to Sawt Al Sha'b daily (J.T.)

SUMMER SCHOOL: The summer school at Mu'ta University will begin on June 24 and run through August 24, according to Al Dustour daily (J.T.)

ANTI-SMOKING: The committee entrusted with making preparations for the international anti-smoking day has approved the events for that day which will be on May 31. The events will include a number of lectures as well as television and radio programmes, according to Al Dustour (J.T.)

TRAVEL FARES: Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Hikmat Khammash has defined travel fares by buses from Irbid to Halawah at 350 fils and from Irbid to Samad at 170 fils (Petra)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ A plastic art exhibition by Mohammad Botis and Muizira Tunkiyeh at the Housing Gallery.
- ★ The May art exhibition at Al Wasiti Art Gallery, Plaza Hotel.

FILM

- ★ A documentary on Bill Cosby, shown as part of the American Centre's programme "America's Actors" — 7:00 p.m.

By Nelly Lama
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Helen Grant, an American resident of Amman, introduces her exhibition that will take place on May 9 at the Petra Gallery, with these words:

"This show is a result of many years of doing spiritual practices for self development, and studying the different effects of shapes and images on the subconscious and the conscious mind. Within my work, you see a lot of symbols and forms that have an effect on the mind, whether or not a person is conscious of their historical meanings or their deeper effect."

She believes that symbols influence people at different levels of the mind even if they do not have an intellectual understanding of these symbols and colours. She claims that these influence is universal.

Each form has its own significance. A stylised double axe, used in the Minoan culture, is the symbol of the power of the good and of light.

The triangle, which can be seen in many of her works, indicates mental movement towards self-development or towards a more materialistic frame of mind, depending on whether the end of the triangle is pointing upwards or downwards. "When a person stares for some times at a triangle pointing upwards, it has a very activating effect on his mind, it engages his intellect and puts the person in the mood to plan, to do; whereas a triangle pointing downwards will engage a more meditative or contemplative state of mind."

Protrusions reminiscent of the Strasbourg Dada artist Jean Arp, (stylised three pointed forms) are symbols associated with Tantra Yoga in India. "They are still using this. You see people still carrying it around. It is made of metal and is called 'Trishul'. Its three points stand for determination, moral courage and fearlessness. It is carried by people who dedicate themselves to a very good cause, to help others or for self-development without worldly pursuits."

The most controversial form is the swastika. It had its origins in India about 7000 years ago and was used at that time to symbolise success, victory and self-development. In fact it continued to have these connotations of success and victory as it spread all over the world. In India, it was generally associated with spiritual things: it is used decoratively all over India on signboards.

"You can find an English style flower garden with hushes cut into swastikas. It gives people coming from Europe a great shock because it is associated with the Nazis. In fact the swastika is more ancient than that. The 'Swa' comes from the Sanskrit word 'Good'. Asti (from Astika) means 'to be'. In other words, the swastika was a symbol that conveyed good wishes 'May you be good'. May you have success. May you be victorious."

There are quite a number of varieties of swastikas. The one with curved ends is used here in Jordan by the Circassians as family markings on belongings each family would adopt a symbol and simply pass it on to the next generation.

Repeated curved linear shapes with dots in between them symbolise the seven energy centres of the body which medical science recognises as clusters of glands and which the yogis say are very important for self-development. The curved shape with a dot in between symbolises the division between the world of forms and the formless world. It is very abstract as an idea, but it is present in all religions. The created world and the precreated world, the realm of the godhead and the world of normal mundane things. So, traditionally, this shape is the bridge between the two of them. A ladder-like form symbolises the same thing, a kind of ascent from one world to another. In general, a dot represents pure consciousness. "A dot within a triangle, therefore, represents the consciousness bound by energy, in a state just before the whole manifested universe comes into being," she synthesises.

In many of the works you will

find spirals that move from the outside inwards and some that move outwards. Those that move clockwise have an energising, more materialistic effect on the mind, and the ones that move anti-clockwise have a relaxing, meditative and introspective effect.

A triangle divided into four equal triangles shows the dominance of energy which is material: One triangle represents the normal level of mundane fares while the inverted triangle shows an introverted tendency of mind.

"In other words, if a person engages in the different worldly activities, in the responsibility towards family, its education etc., and, at the same time, works on one's self-development, one would succeed in coming into contact with the deepest inner self."

Asked about the significance of a recurring circular wheel shape she answered: "Traditionally, all over the world, people have gathered stones with holes in the centre which were given a lot of respect because they symbolise the door between the conscious, manifested world and the super-conscious or unmanifested world, with the hole representing the passageway. On a subconscious level, people have an association with these symbols."

The psychologist Jung said that we get an unconscious collective inheritance through the ages. We inherit certain kinds of references whether we are conscious of them or are simply affected by them.

"These symbols affect the atmosphere. As a matter of fact, the vibrations they create are sent out into the waves of the environment and produce a particular effect there, which is why certain colour combinations affect people who live around them. That is why some people choose some colours for their clothing or to surround themselves with. Pink vibrations give a certain needed energy different from green vibrations."

Helen chooses to symbolise the waves of energy are said

to have three colours: white, red and black, a subtle, an energetic and a static respectively. They are supposed to be the qualifying agents of consciousness that bring the universe into being," she explains.

"You do not see so much yellow, orange and brown, the earth colours, in my work, because I am dealing consciously with a level that goes above that."

Asked whether superimposing one shape over the other had any particular significance, Helen answered: "The position of the different forms and colours is important." One represents the five layers of the mind, the conscious, subconscious and three layers of what modern scientists call the unconscious. The colours were chosen specifically according to the kind of energy effect which is at work in the mind or which an experienced person will have when he is operating primarily from that level of the mind.

Therefore the highest level is a golden one because people who reach that elevated state of mind actually see things in golden hues, sometimes even their skin turns a golden colour.

Lines are done mostly with oil and chalk pastels. Helen uses a plastic resist technique.

Wooden round sculptures are made by cutting out a silhouette, which in itself is a symbolic shape, and covering it with mixed media, using the resist technique with tempera paint or oil based paint.

One biomorphic shape with a thrust upwards and a turbulent curvilinear texture in plastic resist turns very subtle as it is subdued by the almost total coverage with light blue pigment. A wheel within a hat shape refers to the Indian concept of fate, or Karma, destiny, the predetermined. Three projections represent a graphic exaggeration of a human profile with a bump in the forehead. It represents what a human being in a highly developed state of mind might look like, not physically, but aurically i.e., the colour vibration and the field of energy that surrounds him or her.

Some of the prints she makes

show the images and textures to which the medium lends itself. She works on zinc and uses curvilinear shapes unlike the traditional rectangular zinc plates.

"Textures do refer to nature in the form of a thread, a rug or a net, but the idea is to try to communicate something that exists on the mental, psychic and spiritual level."

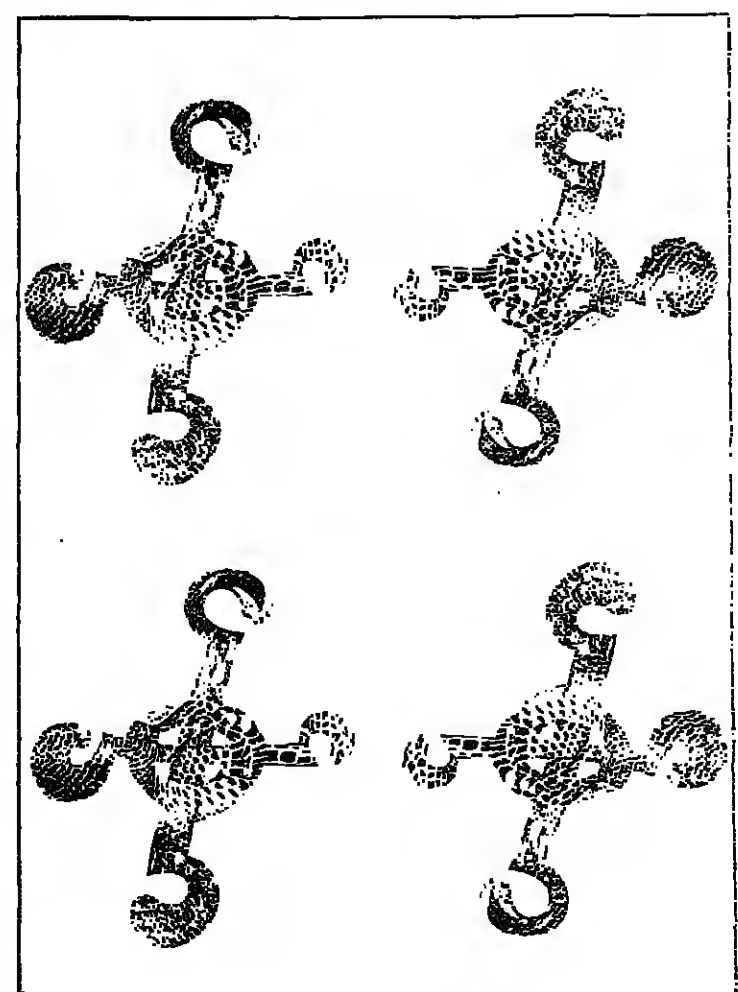
That is why there is a sense of open space, an atonement composition that is either far or cosmic, always without a horizon.

All her paintings are framed with gray matting and a white wooden frame because it keeps the atmosphere of the work while it helps to define it. With a white matting more space would have

been introduced and the floating effect, so successful in the cosmic sense, would suddenly overflow.

Admiring Helen's great sense of balance can bring us back to her formal art studies in the United States. She got her degree in printmaking from the Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburg and was awarded a master's degree in art from the Rochester Institute of Technology in New York. She has also taught art.

Although Helen is primarily interested in the spiritual side of colour, she has, nevertheless, made a study of the medical effect of colour on healing, which she willingly shares with others. The exhibition will run until May 15.



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Weekly Political Pulse

By Waleed Sadi

Give parliament a real chance

ONE of the principal mandates of the government of Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker is to prepare for the next national elections. That means that one must gently open the file of such elections for additional and closer look.

To begin with, the amended elections law views all Jordanians as equal in duties and rights. There are no 18-carat Jordanians and 12-carat ones in the eyes of Jordan's legislation including those amplifying the voting and election process in the country. This is also in keeping with customary international law which calls for a proportionate voting system to reflect the cardinal United Nations principle of one-man-one-vote. The underlying political and legal foundations of such a rule of law stem from the equally well-recognised principle of customary international law as well as from domestic Jordanian law which regards citizens as equal in political rights, especially when it comes to voting. Accordingly, if citizens are equal before the law, it follows that the vote that they cast must also carry equal political weight.

But this legal edifice is not and must not be devoid of political considerations that may put some reasonable restraints on it. It so happens that regional representation also occupies a cardinal place in relevant laws both domestic and international. If the country, the whole country and its people domiciled in different regions of the land with varied forms of concerns and interests are to be equitably represented in a national assembly, one must make a genuine effort to strike a reasonable balance between the principle of one-man-one-vote and the objective of having a fair regional representation. How to strike that equilibrium is of

course the one-million-dinar question that requires astute political ingenuity and farsightedness. It must be borne in mind in this context that few nations, if ever, in the world, including the most sophisticated ones among them, have succeeded to attain the state-of-the-art equitable voting system on a completely ideal as well as balanced regional representation basis.

Many countries have opted to resort to an upper house mechanism to provide for adequate regional representation which could not have been attained in the lower house without molesting with the one-man-one-vote principle. Yet each country has its own peculiar circumstances and conditions which prevent one from adopting a rule of thumb on such highly controversial issues.

What is perhaps more important than all these considerations is the fact that the next national elections in Jordan could serve as some sort of a watershed to gauge accurately how seriously Jordanians take their citizenship rights and duties. It is paramount for Jordanians, all Jordanians, to demonstrate during the projected election period that their demands on their country must be matched by their willingness to be genuine parts of the Jordanian election phenomenon where the welfare, progress and harmony of the country is uppermost on their minds and hearts. In return, the country owes them the duty to give the newly elected national assembly the full opportunity to exercise its functions and duties as illustrated in the Constitution to the best of their bona fide abilities. If the recent unfortunate riots in some Jordanian cities and towns demonstrate anything it is the fact that the country

needs an operational parliament to help it tread its path forward in the face of the multitude of conflicts and issues that are confronting it. The success or failure of the next Jordanian experiment in parliamentary life could very well determine the future of institutionalised dialogue process in Jordan. In other words how our future parliamentarians handle their delicate and highly important functions can make or break the democratic process in Jordan for many years.

The crux of the problem for our future elected representatives is to engage the executive branch of government in a meaningful dialogue motivated by a clear desire to promote public weal in a manner which is not provocative or confrontational for confrontation's sake only. The lawful exercise of their parliamentary duties and functions would also call for the manifestation of moral courage to speak out when it is necessary to do so in order to portray the other side of the argument. In the final analysis it is more how one expresses his thoughts and views that determines the nature of his true intentions. To paraphrase Crown Prince Hassan's assessment of the desired nature of Jordanian parliamentary life, the projected new Jordanian parliament must never be a sloganeering forum to serve ideologues and ideologies that do not have the interests of the country at heart. All Jordanians owe it to themselves to give parliamentary life in Jordan a real chance to succeed. They will have an ample opportunity to do so when they cast their votes in the approaching national elections.

Stop the bloody cycle

ONE hates to think that the most recent flare-up of fighting and indiscriminate shelling between the major Lebanese factions has taken the Lebanese crisis once again to square one. Considerable optimism was generated when the ceasefire, engineered by the six-member Arab League's Ministerial Committee, appeared to be holding in preparation for the deployment of an inter-Arab peace keeping force to monitor the observance of the ceasefire. Then all of a sudden all hell broke loose once again in Lebanon and of all times during the 'Eid Al Fitr holidays. The question that is now uppermost on the minds of all concerned is whether all Arab efforts, painstakingly conducted under the most difficult and pressing conditions, have lost momentum even before the arrival of the Arab force to set the stage for additional steps programmed to be taken on the path of a comprehensive settlement of the conflict. If the answer is in the affirmative, then it would mean that the regional efforts have become bankrupt and time has become ripe for international efforts to pitch in their efforts to salvage the situation in Lebanon. Lebanese, of all factions, one still hopes, would prefer to have their internal conflict solved by Arab efforts rather have it internationalised. If some Lebanese parties think that Arab efforts are anathema to the Lebanese public interest they better think twice before they accept to internationalise it for in such latter approach lies a multitude of latent dangers that could be moved problematical to Lebanon's unity and internal cohesion. Accordingly how the protagonists in Lebanon deal with the fragile ceasefire, declared at the intervention of the Arab League, would determine which way the Lebanese situation is heading. If one of the two sides genuinely believes that the other is determined to torpedo the Arab League's efforts by repeatedly searching for ways to undermine the ceasefire, then one may ask the innocent party to abstain from reacting to such schemes in kind. The objective must be to interrupt the cycle of violence in Lebanon by the party which is the strongest on the side of peace and reconciliation. Such aspiration can still be attained if such a party refuses to fall in the trap set for it by the other side by simply keeping its weapons silent for as long as humanly possible. The cycle of action and reaction must be broken; it behoves the forces of peace in Lebanon to do just that even if it entails some additional transitional sacrifices.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

TWO Jordanian Arabic dailies Al Ra'i and Al Dustour commented on Israel's fabricated reports claiming that Jordan has sought to conclude a defence pact with Israel. Al Ra'i newspaper said such false reports are designed to cast doubts about Jordan's credibility and cause a split within the Arab ranks in general and the Jordanian-Palestinian front in particular. This unfounded and totally false claim, the paper said, complements that which Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir had tried to peddle in the United States when he said that the creation of a Palestinian state in Palestine would threaten Jordan's existence. The paper said that Shamir and the Zionist leaders in Tel Aviv are striving hard to stop the intifada with any possible means and are trying to draw a wedge in Arab ranks and weaken the Arab Nation, the paper said. It said that Jordan supports the PLO and Egypt in demanding a comprehensive peace and believes that elections in the occupied territories would not be enough to achieve that goal. Jordan, it added, supports the creation of a Palestinian state and has paved the way for the Palestinians to achieve that goal by severing ties with the West Bank and supporting the PLO in its endeavour to regain Palestinian rights.

Al Dustour daily said that Israel was trying to deal with its accumulating problems at home by shifting the Israeli public opinion to external issues and is levelling false claims at Jordan. The paper said Israel from time to time resorts to such tactics to divert world public attention from the ongoing revolt inside the occupied Arab territories and sometimes to cause confusion and splits within the ranks of the Arab Nation. The Israeli claim that Jordan was seeking a defence treaty with the Zionist state is an obviously naive attempt to cause confusion at this particular moment as the Palestinian people are involved in a struggle for liberation, the paper noted. It said that Israel has tried several times before to cast doubt on Jordan's national stand in a bid to take off the world's eyes on what is going on inside the occupied Arab lands where the Israeli troops are committing atrocities against the innocent people. Everyone realises that Israel is against the creation of a Palestinian state and it is Israel and not Jordao, as the false report in the Haaretz newspaper claimed, that is trying to prevent the creation of such a state, the paper pointed out.

Sawt Al Shaah daily discussed Eid Al Fitr feast which marked the end of the holy month of Ramadan. The paper said that the Eid comes at a time when the Jordanian family is renewing its determination to pursue the march towards development and when King Hussein is more determined than ever before on helping his people achieve that goal. The paper said that it is true that certain economic conditions brought about the present circumstances but the Jordanian people guided by its wise leadership will eventually overcome the present difficulties and forge ahead with more resolve towards the attainment of their national goals. There is no alternative to self reliance, increased productivity and diligent work to confront the challenges and overcome the present difficulties, said the paper. Eid Al Fitr, it said, should give the Jordanian people a chance to consider all options and to work out plans for their future action.

By Lillian Craig Harris

IN recent months British immigration authorities have turned back numbers of young, unemployed Algerians with little visible means of support who have arrived in the U.K. claiming to be tourists. In response, Algerian authorities have refused entry to several British businessmen. The dispute, which many hope is a minor irritant in an otherwise positive relationship, serves usefully to focus attention on the future of North Africa's relations with Western Europe.

The passing of the colonial era diminished European attention to North Africa, and the age of international weapons has reduced North Africa's strategic importance to its northern neighbours. But North Africa is Western Europe's nearest window on the developing world. The southern Italian islands are only 250 miles from Libya; Ceuta and Melilla involve Spain in a territorial dispute with Morocco; Gibraltar brings Britain to the brink of North Africa.

Advocates of "Mediterranean Basin" politics claim Europe has no southern frontier. Whether or not this is so, the North Africans are making clear their hopes to draw closer to Western Europe. Last year Morocco asked to join the European Community and Algeria re-emphasised its request for membership of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Tunisia, optimistic under new leadership, looks to Europe for development assistance. Even Libya has in recent years complained that, apart from Albania, it is the only Mediterranean state without economic cooperation agreement with the EEC.

On the other hand, the Arab Maghreb Union, agreed to in mid-February by these four North African states and Mauritania, is an encouraging indigenous initiative inspired at least in part by North African awareness of the need to prepare for the opportunities and dangers of a single European market after 1992. Actual political and economic unity will remain elusive for a long time to come. But the North Africans' perception of common challenge has created at least a temporary climate of greater flexibility. On March 3, for example, King Hassan announced that Morocco will ratify in 1972 border agreement with Algeria "to ensure that the foundations for the birth of an Arab Maghreb are complete."

North Africa is changing. Frequent North African demands for "respect" and "equality" convey the chagrin many feel over the need to wait at Europe's backdoor for assistance. Closer attention to the opportunities and dilemmas which North Africa presents to Europe ought not to be postponed.

North Africa's importance to Europe

First the good news. Contrary to its popular image, North Africa is a region of remarkable political and institutional stability. Hassan II has reigned since 1961; Qadhafi came to power in 1969. In Algeria and Tunisia, post-independence leadership changes have occurred non-violently and with allegiance to existing political institutions.

Though North Africans remain extraordinarily sensitive to domination from the north and Europeans usually seek to avoid direct involvement in North African affairs, security cooperation

between the two regions may be growing. In recent years both Spain and France have held joint military manoeuvres with Morocco, and Greece has conducted limited manoeuvres with Libya. French security assistance to North Africa has included seconding military advisers to Morocco and Tunisia, granting security guarantees to Tunisia and assisting Algeria in surveillance of opponents of the regime.

All North African states play important roles in Arab, regional or developing world affairs and have frequently tried to accommodate their European friends. Morocco has gained favour in Europe by seeking to facilitate the Middle East peace process through regular support for European-backed peace initiatives and by gestures such as the 1986 meeting between King Hassan and Israel's then Prime Minister Shimon Peres. Algeria, now serving a two-year term on the U.N. Security Council, has on several occasions functioned as mediator between European or American and Arab or Iranian protagonists.

A lucrative market

For historical reasons, France remains more deeply involved in North Africa both commercially and politically than any other European nation. However, opportunities for Britain are expanding as English increases in popularity as "the language of science and technology," as one British Council official describes it. Libya, ironically, remains Britain's major North African trading partner despite a rupture in diplomatic relations in 1984 following the killing of a British policeman by a member of the Libyan diplomatic mission and, more recently, British anger over verification in late 1987 of major Libyan arms supplies to the IRA.

Commercial exchange between the two regions is both lively and growing. As North Africa seeks to modernise and develop, it

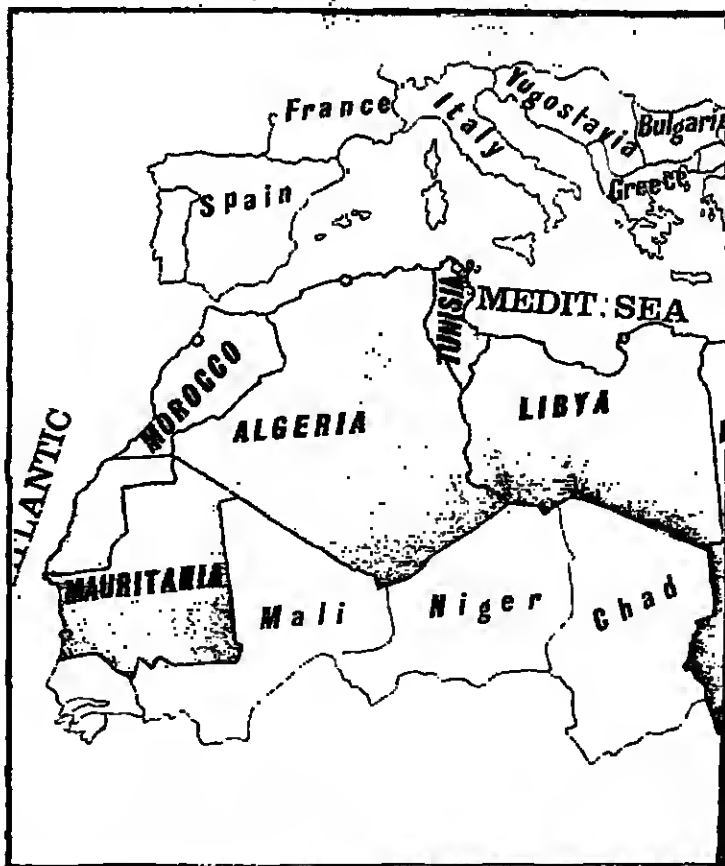
grows more important to Europe as a market for goods and as a consumer of technology and funding. By the end of this century, there will be over 80 million North Africans, most of them eager for European goods. More controversially, several European nations including France, Italy, Germany, Holland and Britain, have found North Africa a lucrative arms market.

Remittances from workers in Europe are a major source of foreign exchange for all North African states, and Morocco and Tunisia gain significant income from European tourists. (Tunisia is visited by at least two million Europeans each year.) But North Africa's greatest income sources are Algerian and Libyan petroleum and Algerian natural gas, much of it marketed to Europe.

Food is a major trading commodity in both directions and Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria have trading agreements with the EEC covering agriculture and fisheries.

Obstacles to better relations

But there is also bad news, much of it financial. In 1987 the North African states carried a total external debt of up to \$64 billion, a significant percentage owed to European sources or to international lending institutions such as the International Monetary Fund. Broad differences between both national resources and economic policy make generalisations dangerous, but serious questions remain about the percentage of North African debts likely to be repaid.



The fact that North Africa lags far behind Europe in development of economic and democratic institutions inevitably restricts the degree to which equitable relationships can evolve between the two regions. Moreover, the contrast between well established cooperation within Western Europe (the EEC and NATO) and the rivalries and piecemeal coordination on the Mediterranean's southern shore has until now presented another barrier to equal relationships.

Moreover, the question of security for European investment in North Africa remains unanswered. A British businessman points out that "constitutional guarantees can be changed." Periodic restrictions on imports of "luxury" goods by all North African countries, combined with lack of foreign exchange to warn Europeans that greatly expanded markets for European goods may not materialise.

Even without these difficulties, North Africa's high population growth rates are sufficient to signal a need for reappraisal of what lies ahead. The problem is not so much one of absolute numbers, but of the inability of three of the North African economies (Libya is the exception) adequately to employ their present populations, let alone the numbers expected by the end of the century. Within 20 years importing labour may become essential to keep European factories operating as European birth rates continue to decline. But social tensions and political controversies such as those resulting from the 1.5 million North Africans in France also seem inevitable.

To compound the problem, none of the four North African states produces even half the food its people consume. Unless the undoubted potential of their own agricultural sectors can be developed (Algeria is making commendable efforts to do so), increased dependence on Europe is likely.

What lies ahead?

Assistance but not control and protection, if necessary, but not interference, are high on North Africa's list of needs from Europe. But although economic dependence on Europe is already an irritant to North Africans, such dependence is growing. All North African states actively seek broader commercial contacts with and more economic aid from Europe. Despite its hydrocarbon resources, even Algeria now receives multinational aid, and since the beginning of this decade, Libya, too, has several times borrowed money from European sources.

European fears of political instability in North Africa, including the frequent observation that in Morocco and Libya continued political stability seems to depend primarily on the survival of one man, may not be exaggerated. But disagreements over national boundaries, competition for regional leadership, tensions between rich and poor, unemployment, all contribute to the possibility of political upheaval.

Most seriously, the Maghreb's high population growth rate (2.5 per cent per year for Morocco and Tunisia and over 3 per cent for Algeria) underlies and complicates all other social, economic and political questions. Conventional wisdom has held that Algeria's national resources and strong government made it the least likely candidate for economic and political chaos. But anti-government riots in late 1988 re-emphasised the difficult choices facing all Maghreb governments.

As the century closes, the two most critical long term problems facing North Africa are rapidly increasing population and food dependency, both dangerous foes of regional stability and independence. Inevitably, an affluent, well fed Europe with a static population must become more deeply involved. But can Europe help North Africa without increasing North African dependence and resentment?

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Lefkada's north coast has superb beaches



The late Onassis with her daughter

Lefkada waking from the dream

By John Solman

CHRISTINA Onassis' funeral put Lefkada in the headlines last month: a rare occurrence. For most people, this quiet island in the Ionian is famous principally — or even only — because off its coast lies the islet of Skorpios, which Christina's father Aristotle turned into a sort of Greek Alcatraz, though one devoted to pleasure rather than punishment.

On Lefkada itself, feelings towards the Onassis dynasty are rather mixed. On the one hand, they brought work to Nidri, the village on the main island facing out to Skorpios: there was always need of cleaning ladies, gardeners and suchlike. And the boatmen did quite well, too, taking out trippers to gaze from a distance at the houses, the private heliport, the jetties. Landing was not — and indeed is not — allowed.

On the other hand, the clan's wish for peace and privacy was such that it used its not inconsiderable political pull to prevent any development of Lefkada for tourism. Bank loans for hotel-building mysteriously failed to come through, and applications for development permits got bogged down in a morass of bureaucracy.

As a result, until the late 1970s,

when the Onassises lost interest in their island, Lefkada was a paradise for those in search of the element of the unspoiled — if not for its islanders. At that time, Lefkada was the only place in the Ionian Islands that could not unreservedly have been termed "poor."

That is changing rapidly. In 1979, when the present writer first visited Lefkada, Poros Bay was an idyllic spot at the end of a tortuous dirt track. There was a camp site, a little taverna and not much else.

The family which struggled to make a living settling vegetables from their garden to visitors spent the summer in a shack with cardboard walls that turned into mush at the slightest sign of rain. Now they have a smart new restaurant, a ghetto-blasted and a spanking new pickup to take their produce to market. Can one regret development when it puts an end to poverty?

Lefkada today is still a paradise, but one of a rather different kind. The tourist facilities which used to be lacking are there now, but discreetly so. This is not Rhodes, or Corfu: there are no enormous hotels, and the "touristy" hit of the island's main town is a 200-yard stretch of the main street. Nidri is the hub of the tourist trade, but once away from

it, the face of traditional Greece is immediately apparent. Lefkada is, for instance, one of the few places left in Greece where the women wear traditional dress as a matter of course: a complicated arrangement of skirts and pinafores tied up in a bun at the back, all done in shades of brown and in a black which steadfastly refuses to look dowdy.

Geographically, and also, I think, socially, Lefkada falls into two parts: the coastal zone, right round the island, and the mountainous inland areas. Once away from the shore, the land rises steeply to a spine of mountains some 3,500 feet high. In the valleys, and around the upland plains, there are villages — or perhaps one should say there were villages, for this part of Lefkada is dying. In the past, the islanders lived up the mountain and came down to the coast to work their fields and pasture their flocks in winter. Now the flocks have gone, the fields are being developed and the population has moved away from the mountain villages. Only the old people are left. The whole of this part of the island is criss-crossed with roads — most of them unsurfaced but perfectly passable — leading to fascinating places such as Enklouvi, the highest village on Lefkas, which produces lentils famed

throughout Greece.

These upland villages should not be missed, even though most people will want to stick largely to the coast.

Lefkada town

The first place the visitor comes to is Lefkada town, reached from the mainland across a causeway and a bridge — Lefkada is only just an island, separated from the rocky coast of Aetolia by a narrow and shallow channel. The town stands on a spit of land sticking out into the channel and has water on two of its three sides — for geographical reasons its shape is roughly triangular. The water to the north takes the form of a lagoon, used for fishing and surrounded by a narrow strip of land with beaches on the other side.

The town itself is rather a peculiar place. Earthquakes in the early '50s knocked it flat, and it was rebuilt in a style in which lath-and-plaster is combined with corrugated iron for the upper floors. At first glance it looks rather like a shanty town, but its charm grows with familiarity and the buildings must be extremely practical from the point of view of protection against further earthquakes.

The main street strikes through the heart of the town, with a

fascinating array of shops in which it is possible to buy — literally, I've checked it! — everything from a computer to a bell to hang round the neck of your sheep. Halfway along is the main square, a delightful place to sit over an ouzo in the evening listening to the excellent brass band practising. To the right and left of the main street is a warren of little alleys flanked by tiny houses built in the local style, many of them with microscopic courtyards filled with flowers. Exploring this area can be great fun, and it's too small to get lost as one can in Corfu town.

The north coast

The trip along the northern coast of Lefkada must be one of the most spectacular in Greece: it certainly has some of the best beaches. The first of these is at Aghios Nikitas, formerly a fishing hamlet and now the focus of development in this part of the island. As the road from Lefkada town approaches Aghios Nikitas, along the pine-clad slopes of the mountain, there are superb coastal views.

Just past Aghios Nikitas, about 12 kilometres from the town, is the beach of Kathisma, an enormous expanse of golden sand and crystal-clear water which has — so far — escaped the developers.

The road now turns inland and climbs. From here until Cape Lefkatas, the westernmost tip of the island, it runs along the top of the cliffs, through occasional villages. Access to the sea is only possible at a few points, and never easy — though well worth the effort when you get there. The island's best beach is along here: called Porto Katsiki, it is down a track near the Cape, some 50 kilometres from Lefkada town. There is a horseshoe of sand beneath a towering cliff, apart from superb swimming. Porto Katsiki is also blessed with stupendous scenery and a visit there is a "must."

Cape Lefkatas, with views south to Kephallonia and Ithaca, is a lonely and impressive spot. White cliffs plunge down into the sea beneath the lighthouse which is the only trace of the human presence today, though in ancient times there was a temple to Apollo. The Cape was the scene of a rite in which people were flung — or jumped — into the sea, and there is a tradition that Sappho, the great poetess of antiquity, met her end here out of unrequited love.

The south coast

The beauty of the south coast of Lefkada is quite different to the wild grandeur of the north.

Softer and gentler, with green wooded hills sweeping down to the sea, little coves, and fine views across to the islets dotting the sea to the south, it has attracted the attention of the developers in recent years and now has a complete range of facilities.

Nidri, 14 kilometres from Lefkada town, is a bustling resort on a deep inlet. Its situation is so beautiful that no amount of development will spoil it. It is of historical interest, too: the German archaeologist Dorpfeld believed that Lefkada was the Homeric Ithaca, and spent much of his life trying to prove it, though without conspicuous success. His dig can be seen beside the main road just west of Nidri and his finds in Lefkada Museum. The man himself is buried on the headland opposite the seafront in Nidri. Among the interesting things to do here are the walk to the waterfall (yes, that's not a misprint. "Like Wales but warmer," said one visitor rather incongruously) and the boat trips out (inevitably) to Skorpios and also to Meganisi. The latter is the largest of all the other islands in the Lefkada group and has three villages, seafaring communities untouched by tourism.

Beyond Nidri the road leaves the coast, amid superb scenery, and runs past Syvota before turning north. Syvota, a fishing vil-

lage on an unparalleled natural harbour, is a great favourite with the yacht flotillas and has excellent restaurants.

The west coast of Lefkada focuses on Vasiliki, 38 kilometres from the town, a little harbour which in recent years has become very popular as a resort. Its main boast is that its large bay is a superb place for wind-surfing — rated by those who know as among the best in Europe. On summer days the whole surface of the bay is alive with multicoloured craft swooping and tacking: an impressive sight.

From Vasiliki the road continues north and joins the north coast road, making it possible to drive right round the island in no more than three hours.

Why anyone should wish to do that, however, this writer at least cannot understand. Lefkada is full of places crying out for more exploration, paths and tracks which might lead to the most exciting spots (I still haven't managed to climb the main mountain peak!) and villages where one could contemplate with equanimity spending the rest of one's life.

Without really planning to, I find myself drifting back to Lefkada every year or two, and enjoying it more each time. I get the impression that others who go there may well end up feeling the same way.

The dazzling Gauguin exhibition in Paris

By Muriel Silan

PARIS — The most important retrospective ever presented of Paul Gauguin's work took four years of preparation, the combined effort of three big international museums (the Washington National Gallery, the Chicago Art Institute and the Paris Musée d'Orsay) and the contribution of private institutions and loans from some twenty countries.

Even if the absence of certain paintings (for instance the famous "Where do we come from? What are we? Where are we going?"), rapidly painted on sack-cloth and too fragile to be transported, or the "Self-portrait with a halo," which was on show in Chicago but did not come to Paris as there is a clause forbidding it to leave Chicago) can be regretted, the 250 or so works presented here offer the visitor some pleasant surprises.

The first delight is to see the originals of paintings which were only known through their reproductions, as was the case for most of the pictures from the Soviet Union, Japan and Latin America. There is also surprise at the less known aspects of Gauguin's work. Indeed, one of the great merits of this exhibition is to bring attention to the ceramics, sculpture and graphic works, and to contrast them with the paintings. Gauguin often proved to be a precursor in the former before being a precursor in his paintings. For instance, the wood-carvings for Noa-Noa are an unprecedented example in the history of wood-cuts. Finally, one is dazzled in the chronological sequence of the exhibition which enables one to assess the boldness of an artist whose only rule was "to dare everything," from the Impressionist beginnings when Gauguin was only an amateur and collector, to his last works on the Iles Marquises.

Gauguin's first paintings immediately place him in the artistic movement of the period, among the Impressionists. The influence of Pissarro, his master, can be recognised in "Apple trees at the Hermitage" (or "The Farm Buildings"), Degas' influence in "Interior in Rue Carcel" or in the wood sculpture "The Singer." His "Nude Study of Suzanne sewing" already displays great originality. The scrolls on the wrought iron bed and the wall-paper in "La Petite Reuve" show Gauguin's interest in Decorative Arts, an interest he was to maintain in all his work. The presence of a small carved wooden box with a recumbent figure marks the first appearance of what was to become Gauguin's famous

"primitivism." But the painter's art really got off the ground in 1886 in Brittany. Contrary to preconceived ideas which make Gauguin a "painter of exoticism," the exhibition, which is very rich on the Brittany period, shows that the Tahiti paintings were just a development of his research carried out in Brittany, his first "end of the earth" where he set off on the conquest of his "yet unknown corner of myself," and his "wild side despite himself."

In the "Breton Shepherdess" the areas of colour are more clearly defined but the choppy strokes of Impressionism are still visible. It took the journey to Martinique, the following year, to make the break. In "Tropical Vegetation" or "Seaside," the colour is more intense and the outlines are sharper.

And then there is the "Vision after the sermon or Jacob's struggle with the angel," the artist's first real challenge and his first painting with a religious theme. The area of the picture is upset and perspective is lost. A diagonal tree-trunk separates the Breton women's white head-dresses from the sacred scene on a vermillion background.

"I well know that I will be less and less understood," Gauguin wrote about that painting which frightened the priest of Pont-Aven church, to whom he

"The exhibition pays magnificent homage to the art of Paul Gauguin, too often obscured by the legend of the damned artist. He was one of the precursors of modern art. Picasso, Matisse and many others were to be indebted to him."

wanted to give it and who refused it, and created a scandal at the "Salon des XX." "The artist wanted to presumptuously make fun of the visitor." But Gauguin had, nevertheless, created the first picture in a new style, "Synthetism," which illustrates his global conception of an anti-naturalist and symbolist art.

From then on, all his paintings showed his new freedom. From "Still life, the Goanec fete" to the "Self portrait of the yellow Christ" and including the famous "Still life with the little dogs," inspired by Japonism, he followed that path which was his alone. The episode of the three months spent in Arles with Van Gogh, which was to end so dramatically, is evoked in three superb paintings presented: "Les Alyscamps," "At the cafe" and "Old Women in Arles."

The rest of the exhibition re-



"Arcarea" by Gauguin from the Tahitian period

creates the dazzling light and colour of his first stay in Tahiti, from April 1891 to summer 1893. "There is a whole shock between your civilisation and my barbarity, the civilisation you are suffering from and the barbarity which is, for me, a rejuvenation," Gauguin wrote to A. Strindberg. All the elements of synthesis are united here with the exaltation of brown bodies on the flat background of ocean seascapes, with a

series of nudes, portraits of sumptuous Tahitian girls, domestic scenes, magic evocations of Tahitian mythology, a host of moments from eternal life cut in the area of the canvas, offered up to our gaze.

His painful return to Paris left this invention of Polynesian mystery intact, as shown in "Annah the Javanese woman" or in the strange ceramic-sculpture "Oviri," the female killer which Gauguin wanted to have decorate his tomb.

The final period, from 1895 to 1903, is far more serious, more religious and more symbolical with boldness pushed to paroxysm in his coloured compositions and orchestrations.

From masterpiece to masterpiece, from "Te arri vahine" to

the famous wood carvings of the "Maison du Jour," he was now "the unheard of artist who, from the depths of Oceania, sent this disconcerting, inimitable work, the definitive works of a great man who had, so to speak, disappeared from the world," as his faithful friend Daniel de Monfreid was to write to him.

This exhibition pays magnificent homage to the art of Paul Gauguin, too often obscured by the legend of the damned artist. He was one of the precursors of modern art. Picasso, Matisse and many others were to be indebted to him.

Three weeks after his opening, the exhibition recorded over 6,000 entries a day.

— French features

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Dollar's global role wanes

BASLE, Switzerland (R) — The dollar's global role has shrunk steadily in the past five years and it now accounts for only just over half of lending by banks in industrialised countries, according to a study published Tuesday.

By contrast, Japan's yen and West Germany's mark have grown strongly in importance and at the end of last year each accounted for around 10 per cent of total outstanding loans, the Basle-based Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said.

"On balance, all new lending to outside-area countries since 1983 was in currencies other than the dollar, whereas the outstanding claims in dollars declined marginally," it added.

The report from the central bankers' central bank was based on information from banks in the BIS reporting area, comprising 18 industrialised countries and seven offshore banking centres.

Between 1983 and 1988 the dollar's share of cross-border lending by these banks contracted to 53 from 72 per cent.

The BIS gave five reasons for the growing importance of non-dollar currencies:

— Financial deregulation in a number of countries had greatly increased the international use of certain currencies.

— The growing international presence of certain non-U.S. banks, partly due to the dollar's depreciation.

— Lower interest rates on most non-dollar currencies had boosted borrowing demand in them rather than the dollar.

— Rapid growth of countries around the Pacific rim, which favoured the yen.

— Debt rescheduling and reduction programmes in developing nations had often involved shifting from dollars to other currencies.

The strongest growth was in the yen over the five-year period under review. Its share of total claims on outside-area countries more than tripled to the equivalent of \$58.5 billion from \$14.4 billion, the BIS said.

If allowance was made for the dollar's depreciation against the yen over that time span, the increase was still 121 per cent on the basis of constant end-1988 exchange rates, it added.

This rapid expansion was helped by Japan's lifting of restrictions on external lending in yen and by the setting-up of the Japan offshore market.

Deutschebank claims more than doubled in current dollar terms to \$55.3 billion, but rose by only about 31 per cent on the basis of constant exchange rates.

Other currencies such as the pound sterling, the French franc, and the Swiss franc also increased market share.

While the dollar's attractions for lending plunged, it showed greater resilience as a currency in which to place deposits and was still favoured by official institutions, the BIS said.

Also "the high interest yield on dollars apparently exerted a strong attraction on investors from outside-area countries, whereas the Swiss franc, the Deutsche mark and the yen had much less to offer in this respect," the BIS added.

At constant end-1988 exchange rates, dollar holdings at BIS-area banks rose by \$58 billion over the five years to 1988, while non-dollar holdings rose by \$51.8 billion.

Dollar continues inexorable rise towards intervention

Meanwhile, the dollar traded firmly Monday in Europe, where dealers kept a wary eye out for more central bank intervention after the Bank of Japan sold dollars for yen to keep its rise in check.

"Sentiment is still very much with the dollar, people are very keen to get their money into dollar funds," said one London dealer.

Dealers said the dollar was again set to test 1.90 Deutsche marks, the level at which they believe central banks will sell the currency to stop it rising too far.

It opened in London at 1.8996 marks, near an eight-month closing high of 1.8985 Friday and at 134.52 compared with 134.35 at a close of business last week. By midday it had firmed to just under 1.8990 marks and around 134.65 yen.

Central banks in North America and Europe sold the dollar last week as it tested and briefly breached the 1.90 mark level. They worry that a strong dollar will fuel inflation in Europe and elsewhere and harm efforts to trim the U.S. trade deficit.

But dealers said only small amounts were sold and the intervention appeared half-hearted in the face of an insatiable demand for dollars because of relatively high U.S. interest rates.

"Nobody is afraid of the central banks," said one Frankfurt dealer. "The dollar will slowly rise and the central banks will intervene at 135 yen, but they can only slow the rise, not stop it," said Shinyo Tsuda of Fuji Bank in Düsseldorf.

Last week's European and North American intervention took on the guise of a ritual, with dealers edging the U.S. currency

up until the U.S. central bank, the Federal Reserve, opened in New York to lead a concerted round of intervention across the Atlantic.

Market belief is that major industrial nations secretly set 1.90 marks as the top acceptable level for the Deutsche mark at a Paris meeting in February 1987 in what became known as the Louvre

accord.

But with a new U.S. administration in place, dealers feel the view from Washington may have changed or be under review.

"We're puzzled because it runs counter to Fed intervention," said a trader. Confusion was compounded by the fact that Federal Reserve Board Governor Martha Seger had earlier said the dollar's

strength was harming U.S. export potential.

Share prices opened slightly weaker in quiet trade in London, partly because of confusion about the dollar's future, dealers said.

Gold traded quietly in London with the market recovering from 32-month lows and was fixed in the morning at \$377.15 an ounce from Friday's close of \$375.25.



U.S. officials urge swift action on trade imbalances

WASHINGTON (R) — Senior treasury officials, sensing growing frustration in Congress about the U.S. trade gap, have urged swift action to tackle global economic imbalances and warned of financial instability if no progress is made.

But, at a hearing of the Senate Banking Committee, the officials declined to back suggestions that the dollar should fall further to give U.S. exporters an edge in world markets.

"The exchange rates we've had in recent months ... and the stability in exchange markets, has been welcome to us," said Treasury Undersecretary-Designate David Mulford.

The dollar has been climbing steadily in recent days on the back of high U.S. interest rates. It climbed further Friday as dealers read Mulford's remarks as implicitly endorsing the higher levels.

"The dollar is quite competitive at this stage," Mulford said. But he also stressed that an April 2 statement by the Group of Seven industrial democracies opposing a rise in the dollar remained valid.

"That would be our position today," Mulford said. He said progress in reducing the U.S. trade deficit, and the

partners are sceptical. They want to see the proof, in terms of further reductions in the deficit," Brady said.

"Our efforts to get other countries to make the hard domestic choices that are necessary will succeed only if the United States demonstrates leadership and does its part by reducing the federal budget deficit," he added.

Mulford said that unless the U.S. trade deficit comes down, the nation's \$500 billion debt burden will continue to rise, exacting a heavy economic price.

"If that (debt) burden becomes too heavy and long-lived, it also becomes a major political problem" because it impinges on the United States' ability to lead, Mulford added.

It was clear from remarks by several senators that political feelings are already running high because of the trade deficit, which was \$120 billion in 1988.

Senator John Kerry spoke of a mood of "deepening anger and impatience" both in Congress and across the country.

Senator Larry Pressler said there was a "growing clamour at the grass-roots" about international trade.

Warsaw urges sacrifices to rescue economy

WARSAW (R) — Prime Minister Mieczyslaw Rakowski has urged Poles to make sacrifices and support government efforts to rescue the country's strangled economy.

"It is a critical moment. Our economy has no hidden reserves. Our hard currency resources are worse than modest. The state budget deficit is growing. Subsidies are on the increase," Rakowski told a Communist Party conference.

"We cannot agree to protests at times launched by our own comrades. This only makes the situation worse and increases inflation. The bitter truth is there is no getting away from sacrifices and self-denial," he said in the televised speech.

Delegates at the first day of the conference attacked the government's economic policies, saying they had failed to fill empty shop shelves or curb soaring inflation — widely expected to reach 100 per cent this year.

Several delegates called for clearer, more effective economic policies, but Rakowski, defending government reforms, said industrial output had risen by 37 per cent since 1982.

He said protests and strikes under the banner of simplistic populist slogans could block chances to solve the country's problems, and he urged Poles to support the reforms.

"It is not true that reform mainly means higher prices,"

Rakowski said.

"If we get a 'yes' (to proceed with reform) there is a real chance of maintaining the living standards of those who work well. But without such an answer, no government will manage to get out of the very grave economic situation," he noted.

Poland is crippled by a \$39 billion foreign debt. Inflation was more than 70 per cent by the end of 1988 and the government expects a record budget deficit this year of more than a trillion zloties (\$1.47 billion).

A finance ministry official told Reuters last week Poland had suspended principal payments to its commercial bank creditors and wanted to revise debt-scheduling agreements.

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, April 29, '89 and ending Wednesday May 3, '89. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Petra Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Islamic Bank	500	995	1,990	1,990	1,000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	806	1,115	1,410	1,350	1,000
Jordan Gulf Bank	28,660	3,4938	1,230	1,210	1,000
Housing Bank	1,105	2,037	1,850	1,900	1,000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Cairo Amman Bank	—	—	—	—	5,000
Bank of Jordan	1,441	21,755	15,120	15,090	5,000
Arab Bank	1,600	23,6628	146,750	150,000	10,000
Jordan National Bank	4,225	10,187	2,410	2,410	1,000
Jordan Finance House for Development	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	10,394	22,188	2,350	2,300	1,000
Finance and Credit Corporation	3,800	7,221	1,940	1,910	1,000
National Financial Investments	13,005	11,494	0,880	0,880	1,000
National Portfolio Securities	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Securities Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	2,000
Beit Al Mal Saving & Investment for Housing	1,010	1,111	1,100	1,100	1,000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Middle East Insurance	625	1,263	2,000	2,020	1,000
Jordan French Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
REFCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Insurance	1,500	4,679	3,020	3,150	1,000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Philadelphia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jerusalem Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
General Arabia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Abhiya Insurance	262	344	1,400	1,300	1,000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
United Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Services and industries					
General Investments	—	—	—	—	1,000
Imma for Investment and Financial Facilities	112	80	0,750	0,710	1,000
Darco for Housing and Investment	20,067	1,4934	0,720	0,740	1,000
Real Estate Investment (Aqarco)	37,352	23,311	0,630	0,630	1,000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	11,869	4,187	0,340	0,360	1,000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	19,100	3,246	0,670	0,670	1,000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Ta'jeero	9,500	2,575	0,790	0,780	1,000
International Contracting & Investment	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordanian Electric Power	4,796	7,001	1,450	1,480	1,000
Irbid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab International Hotels	32,688	32,818	1,000	1,010	1,000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1,000
United Middle East and Commodore Hotels	200	86	0,400	0,440	1,000
Garage Owners Federation Office	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	11,111	12,121	1,090	1,090	1,000
Jordan Press Foundation	10,200	26,220	2,570	2,600	1,000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	19,300	8,515	0,410	0,460	1,000
Jordan Dairy	10,300	943	0,880	0,920	1,000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	27,462	88,568	3,130	3,280	1,000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	23,6775	431,104	1,750	1,850	1,000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	193	698	3,640	3,600	1,000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	51,333	8,209	1,610	1,600	1,000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	1,350	5,962	4,440	4,420	1,000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Sweets and Chocolate Manufacturing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Aladdin Industries	15,000	27,864	1,810	1,860	1,000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	24,431	46,872	1,790	1,940	1,000
Jordan Ceramics	—	—	—	—	1,000
Chemical Industries	72,500	17,329	1,900	1,920	1,000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	80,900	5,210	0,630	0,650	1,000
Dar Al Daw' for Development and Investment	51,280	12,316	2,380	2,390	1,000
National Steel Industries	2,200	6,282	2,860	2,850	1,000
Universal Chemical Industries	13,800	41,774	2,980	3,020	5,000
General Mining	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	14,225	11,303	7,990	7,850	1,000
Jordan Lime & Brick	15,075	3,002	0,190	0,200	1,000
National Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Investment and International Trade	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	39,550	8,7014	2,120	2,250	1,000
Livestock and Poultry	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	30,700	6,0073	1,890	1,960	1,000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	34,950	32,505	0,890	0,950	1,000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1,000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1,000
Woolen Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Tanning	—	—	—	—	5,000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	34	672	19,750	19,750	1,000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	9,090	9,020	0,990	1,000	1,000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	112,900	237,230	1,960	2,220	1,000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	37,465	41,462	1,100	1,110	1,000
Jordao Sulpho Chemicals	55,690	119,778	2,130	2,100	1,000
Jordan Cement Industries	49,517	53,101	1,040	1,090	1,000
Jordan Glass Industries	4,650	4,635	0,990	1,000	1,000
Jordan Precast Concrete Industry	64,850	44,150	0,670	0,700	1,000
Grand total	1,049,566	1,889,277			

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AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday, May 4, 1989		Central Bank official rates	
Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	538.0	542.0	
Pound Sterling	904.9	913.8	
Deutsche mark	284.7	297.5	
Swiss franc	319.8	323.2	
French franc	84.4	85.2	
Japanese yen (for 100)	401.8	406.1	
Dutch guilder	252.5	254.9	
Swedish crown	83.9	84.6	
Italian lira (for 100)	39.0	39.3	
Belgian franc (for 10)	136.1	137.4	

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.			
One Sterling	1.6740/50	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.1835/45	Canadian dollar	
	1.8983/90	Deutsche marks	
	2.1403/10	Dutch guilders	
	1.6963/73	Swiss francs	
	39.72/75	Belgian francs	
	6.4070/120	French francs	
	1386/1387	Italian lire	
	134.60/70	Japanese yen	
	6.4350/400	Swedish crowns	
	6.8710/60	Norwegian crowns	
	7.3850/900	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	377.15/377.45	U.S. dollars	

'100 years of racist rugby'

Activists seek response to S. African overtures

LONDON (R) — Anti-apartheid leader Sam Ramsamy threatened protest action Monday against countries who send players to South Africa's rugby union centenary celebrations in August.

Ramsamy, leader of the London-based organisation SANROC, which led disruption of the 1986 Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh, said: "These celebrations are about 100 years of racist rugby."

He said SANROC would take action against countries which had given the go-ahead to players to take part in the celebrations unless those countries reconsidered.

Scotland and Wales both said last week they would not stand in the way of players who wanted to take part in the six matches in August.

Ramsamy said: "We shall be urging the rugby authorities to change their mind and asking them to show us the same courtesy they have given South Africa by passing on our message to their players."

"We are hopeful they will re-

consider. Rugby has an obligation not to jeopardise international competition for other sports.

"If they refuse, protest action will focus on all countries seeding players."

"New Zealand has gone out of its way to cut links with South Africa and in fact has been quite ruthless. But we don't know what action the African countries might take, so action over the (1990) Commonwealth Games cannot be ruled out."

The international rugby board gave South Africa permission in April to invite players through their national unions to make up a composite international XV as part of the centenary celebrations.

Like Wales and Scotland, Australia has said it would pass on invitations but has not said whether it would direct them to do so.

New Zealand, which stages the Commonwealth Games in Auckland in January and February, has indicated it would not pass on invitations.

Maradona disappears

ROME (AP) — Napoli management was visibly peeved with team leader Diego Armando Maradona after the Argentine midfielder failed to show up for Sunday's away match at Bologna.

"I'm not obligated to comment on this," team president Corrado Ferlaino responded to reporters at halftime. "I've nothing to say."

Without Maradona, second place Napoli had to struggle to a 1-1 draw against a game Bologna

team. A win at Bologna would have allowed the team to have a point off of league-leading Internazionale of Milan's six point lead. Inter tied 1-1 away from home against Juventus of Turin to climb to 46 points.

This season, Maradona has sat out six matches with a series of persistent injuries. In the 21 matches which Maradona has played, the team has racked up 35 points for an average of nearly 1.7 points per match.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Sheffield replay: two clubs, one voice

MANCHESTER (R) — Rival English soccer fans joined in harmony Sunday as Liverpool and Nottingham Forest replayed a match interrupted last month by a disaster that claimed 95 lives. A crowd of only 38,000 — 13,000 below capacity — watched Liverpool sweep in a 3-1 victory in an F.A. cup semifinal overshadowed by memories of Britain's worst sporting tragedy. At Manchester United's Old Trafford stadium, Nottingham supporters passed a 50-metre dicker tape strip in red and white — the colours of both clubs — in Liverpool supporters in adjacent terracing. The whole crowd joined to sing "you'll never walk alone," the Liverpool club anthem. Thousands of tickets remained unsold for Sunday's rescheduled match in Manchester, which began with a minute's silence. Players wore black armbands and match tickets were edged with black.

Lendl swathes through Agassi

NEW YORK (R) — Top seed Ivan Lendl overpowered defending champion Andre Agassi 6-2, 6-3 Sunday to reach his fourth tournament of champions final. Lendl never let Agassi find a groove as he blasted nine aces and always seemed to have the answer when the third-seeded American attempted to pound forehand winners. The Czechoslovak world number one also appeared to be much less hampered by strong winds on the Forest Hills stadium court. "He could drive the ball through the wind and it seemed like I was the one worried about playing the wind. That probably made a big difference," the fifth-ranked Agassi said. With the other half of the draw decimated of its top seeds by early upsets and an injury to France's Yannick Noah, the Lendl-Agassi match seemed tantamount to the final. Monday Lendl meets unseeded Peruvian Jaime Yzaga in the finals of this rain-delayed \$602,500 event.

'Tour de Trump' leaves New York

ALLENTOWN, Pennsylvania (AP) — Dutchman Henk Lubberding won the 123-mile (197-kilometre) New York to Lehigh Valley road Sunday, but Dag-Otto Lauritzen of Norway became the overall leader of the inaugural Tour de Trump cycling race. Lauritzen, the third overall leader in three days, placed second in the stage to overtake amateur Viatcheslav Ekinov of the Soviet Union. Lubberding, 35, the oldest rider in the field, was timed in 5 hours, 40 minutes 33 seconds in the longest race in the 10-day event. The course began near Central Park in Manhattan, progressed through New Jersey and is now in Eastern Pennsylvania. With Lauritzen, third-placed finisher Paul Curran of England and Colombian Ricardo Wilches, Lubberding built a 45-second margin after 51 miles (82 kilometres). The foursome was joined by more than 20 riders for several miles before Lubberding, Lauritzen and Curran pulled away again. The trio rode together for the final stretch.

Monaco Grand Prix: heavy traffic clogs the bends

Senna settles scores with win

MONTE CARLO (R) — World champion Ayrton Senna erased a nightmare memory and won a vital psychological advantage Sunday when he convincingly beat McLaren team-mate and rival Alain Prost to win the Monaco Grand Prix.

Starting from pole position, the Brazilian drove a faultless lights-to-flag race to achieve the 16th win of his Formula One career. It was his second in succession and this time he left Prost 52 seconds behind in second place.

Senna's only previous win around the demanding, twisting street circuit was in 1987.

His victory put him equal with Prost on points at the head of the world championship standings — in first place on races won — and wiped away the memory of last year's performance in the principality when he crashed while leading.

It also restored much of his fragile self-confidence after a reported tongue-lashing from the Frenchman, which reduced Senna to tears, following last month's San Marino Grand Prix when Senna broke a private agreement between the two Honda-powered drivers.

Prost, too angry to speak after Senna broke their arrangement and overtook him early on at Imola, managed to shake hands with Senna Sunday after what he described as "the most boring and ridiculous race" of his career. But he had strong words for compatriot Rene Arnoux who was censured by the stewards for baulking.

"I cannot understand that sort of driving," he said. "It was impossible to overtake and he



In the hot seat: the Oryx, the first British Formula One team for ten years, failed to place in the Monaco Grand Prix Sunday

cost me at least 10 seconds. It was unforgivable."

Setting for second

While Senna was able to thread his car through the traffic on the 77-lap race — reduced by lap

because of an aborted start when Briton Derek Warwick stalled his arrows on the grid — Prost was beset by problems with backmarkers and admitted he settled for second long before the end.

In addition to his trouble with Arnoux, Prost also lost more than

25 seconds when he was forced to stop at the Loews hairpin because of a collision between Italian Andrea De Cesaris, in a Dallara, and Brazilian Nelson Piquet, in a Lotus.

But both Prost and Senna, who lost first and second gears in the second half of the race, lapped the rest of the field for the second successive Grand Prix. Prost also set a lap record — a record 29th time he has performed the feat.

He previously shared the mark for most fastest laps with Briton Jim Clark.

Stefano Modena, in a Brabham, finished third ahead of fellow-Italians Alex Caffi in a Dallara and Michele Alboreto in a Tyrrell.

The top six included three drivers who had succeeded in qualifying — Modena, Caffi and Brundle and it was the first time Modena or Caffi had finished in the points.

Neither could have expected such a good result in the early stages when Belgian Thierry Boutsen in a Williams and French Nigel Mansell in a Ferrari were holding third and fourth place behind the McLarens with Brundle and De Cesaris close behind.

Boutsen, however, was forced to pit for a new rear wing after laps and Mansell, German entrant in the absence of injured Austrian Gerhard Berger, retired after 30 laps with gearbox problems.

Brundle, who was within 1.7 seconds of Prost after 40 laps, drove superbly to finish second when Italian Ivan Capelli took his march after 76 laps with electrical trouble.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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SPOTTING THE OBVIOUS

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K 6
♥ E 3 2
♦ Q 1 5
♣ A 5 4

WEST
♠ 10 9 8
♥ 7 5 3
♦ 10 9 8
♣ 4 3 2

EAST
♠ 7 5 3
♥ Q J 7
♦ 10 9 7
♣ 10 7 5 2

SOUTH
♠ A Q 2
♥ A 6 4
♦ A K 6
♣ K J 8

The bidding:
South West North East
3 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
3 NT Pass 6 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠
There are some situations that crop up again and again. A veteran declarer doesn't really think about how to handle them — the play is automatic. Consider this hand.

North-South were using a 21-22 range for their two no trump openings. North's three clubs was a probe for a possible major-suit fit, and when a possible heart fit went

aglimmering, he leaped straight to what he expected to make.

West led the top of his spade sequence. Declarer could count 11 fast tricks, and the obvious place to look for the 12th would seem to be the club finesse. However, there is an additional chance: A 3-3 heart split will produce a third trick in that suit.

How can declarer combine his chances? If he takes the club finesse and it loses, he cannot give up a heart. If he plays three rounds of hearts, he stands to lose two tricks if the suit breaks 4-2, according to the percentages.

The solution is simple enough. At trick two declarer should lead a low heart and duck it in the other hand, surrendering a trick when the opponents can do him no harm.

Now declarer can test hearts without running the risk of going down. He can win any return and cash the ace and king of hearts. If the suit divides evenly, the long heart is set up for the fulfilling trick. If one of the defenders shows out on the third heart, declarer can still fall back on the club finesse for his fulfilling trick. Two chances are much better than one.

An engulfing dream: Mogilny describes defection

BUFFALO (AP) — In his first public appearance since defecting from the Soviet hockey team, a defiant Alexander Mogilny said Sunday he came to the United States to secure his future.

"I have to think about the time when I no longer will be playing hockey," Mogilny said through an interpreter provided by the Buffalo Sabres, the team he hopes to join in the NHL. "So thinking about the future, I'm doing what I have to do now while I'm still young and strong."

Although Sabres general manager Gerry Meehan wouldn't allow Mogilny to answer some questions, the young Soviet star, 20, questioned the right Soviet authorities had to make decisions about his hockey future.

"Why should they (the Soviet Sports Federation) do my thinking for me?" he said. "Why should they be the ones to decide?"

Mogilny said reports from the Soviet Union calling his selfish sidestepped the corresponding issue of what becomes of him when his playing days end.

"I've heard they write that I think only of myself," he said. "But who is thinking about me

when I finish playing hockey in the Soviet Union? They don't think about that."

He said his life "has undergone great changes," adding, "the changes are for the better."

While Meehan didn't allow Mogilny to answer detailed questions about how and why he left the Soviet Union, Mogilny did respond to questions that a romantic relationship with an American college student he met in Alaska at the world junior championships last winter played a part in his decision.

"That has nothing to do with it," he said. "She's just a friend — an acquaintance."

'I'm a grownup now'

The right wing said he hadn't heard reports that his mother was angry at him for leaving the Soviet Union, but he added, "I'm a grownup now. I have to make my own decisions about my life."

He said he has "been thinking about it (leaving the Soviet Union) for maybe a year. But circumstances didn't make it possible. It's very hard to take a step like that. I fought it out for some time."

The anguish involved in making the decision was one reason for his poor performance in the recent world championships at Stockholm, Sweden, he said.

The Soviets won the world title, but Mogilny, known for his offensive skills, and no goals and three assists in 10 games. After that tournament, Mogilny, through an unnamed intermediary, allegedly called the Sabres and said he wanted to leave.

"You must understand," he said, "the thought about coming here didn't give me any peace. I wasn't thinking about the game."

Meehan refused to let him answer questions about his reported dissatisfaction with his status among Soviet hockey officials. But Mogilny acknowledged he was recently stripped of his "master of sport" order and docked a month's pay after receiving a 10-game suspension for fighting in a Soviet league game.

Soviet authorities may press desertion charges against Mogilny, who was a junior lieutenant in the Soviet army, which would make a return to the Soviet Union very difficult.

The newspaper Sovetskoy Sport

quoted a Moscow prosecutor as saying Mogilny was under investigation for desertion.

"If the crime is confirmed, I think we will ask for extradition of the officer," said Col. Lenoid Ohyektov, prosecutor for the Moscow garrison.

"Evasion of military service and desertion is considered to be a grave crime in all countries," Ohyektov said. "To study all the details of this affair, we will request through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs legal assistance of appropriate U.S. organizations."

The investigation will include the interrogation of Mogilny and any other searches for facts which might be required.

Asked if he thinks he'll be able to return to visit his family, Mogilny said, "I hope that I have not left them forever, and that I will have the chance to see them again."

He said he was confident he can make it in the NHL. "I'll put out the maximum effort and I'll be able to do it," he said.

The question now is whether he'll be allowed to play in the NHL.

his status with U.S. immigration officials. He is in the states on a seven-day "probationary" status, and the team will have to take further action before Friday.

Meehan declined to say whether Mogilny would apply for asylum, adding he was exploring the available options.

HISTORY IN THE MAKING
SUNSET CONCERT

IN

THE ROMAN AMPHITHEATRE
PETRA

MAY 23 1989

Musical masterpieces performed by the renowned pianist

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Proceeds to go to the Royal Music Conservatory and to establish a fund for the restoration of Petra.

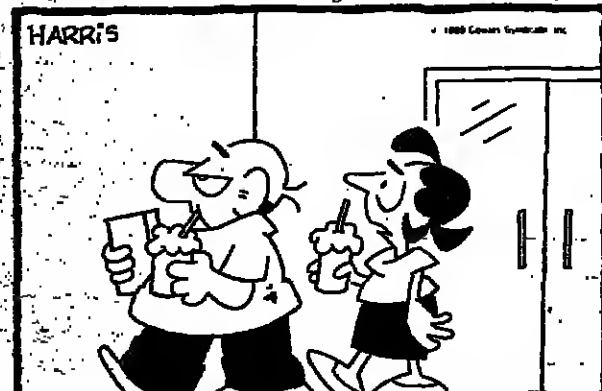
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THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"Romance used to mean dinner and a movie. Now it's a Slushie and a tape rental."

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NOICT

MULBA

TYKONT

HIGLES



WHY THEY CALL THEM "TELLERS" AT BANKS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: C O U N T

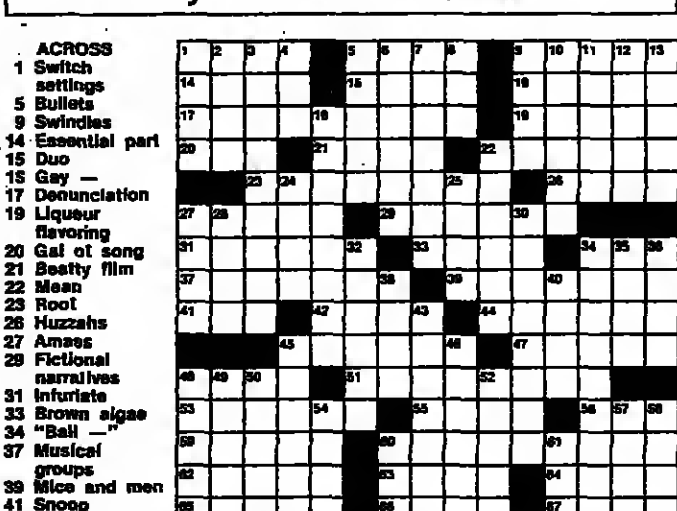
Yesterday's Jumble: POKER TEASE MYNIAL SURETY

Answer: What the game of polo involves a lot of "HORSE PLAY"

HOROSCOPE NOT

RECEIVED

THE Daily Crossword by I. Miller



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Saturday's Puzzle Solver:



DOWN
1 Globe
2 Queen
3 Reckless
4 Depot abbr.
5 Church
6 Small lake
7 Coup d'—
8 Lark
9 Weird quality
10 Noah's
11 Landing site
12 Hat highlight
13 Religious reformer
14 Fictional narratives
15 Infuriate
16 Brown algae
17 "Ball"
18 Musical groups
19 Police and men
20 Snoop
21 Paper quantity
22 Truck
23 Sidewalk or path
24 Wool cap
25 Lark
26 Weird quality
27 Noah's
28 Landing site
29 Hat highlight
30 Religious reformer
31 Fictional narratives
32 Infuriate
33 Brown algae
34 "Ball"
35 Musical groups
36 Police and men
37 Snoop
38 Paper quantity
39 Truck
40 Sidewalk or path
41 Wool cap
42 Lark
43 Weird quality
44 Noah's
45 Landing site
46 Hat highlight
47 Religious reformer

40 Titles of respect: abbr.
41 Wonder
42 Calm
43 More breezy
44 Coarse lark
45 Right: prel.
46 By — (orally)
47 Relative
48 Inspire with wonder
49 Annals
50 Printing term
51 — the line

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Khmer Rouge rejects truce, peace proposals

TUAN SAI RIER, Thai-Cambodian border (AP) — The nominal leader of the Khmer Rouge, the largest Cambodian guerrilla group, rejected Monday a ceasefire and other recent proposals for ending the decade-old jungle war.

The hardline stance of Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan dampened the optimism that followed conciliatory talks last week between his guerrilla ally, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, and Hun Sen, premier of the Vietnamese-installed government in Cambodia. He appeared to reject all the concessions Sihanouk made at the talks.

Khieu Samphan and Sihanouk each spoke with reporters after a diplomatic ceremony at a Sihanouk army base about one kilometre inside Cambodia's Siam Reap province, but Sihanouk had no immediate comment on Khieu Samphan's remarks at the base.

The ambassadors of China, North Korea and Senegal presented their credentials to Sihanouk as president of the United Nations-recognised resistance coalition government.

They trusted each other with campaigns served by white-jacketed fighters as guerrillas in battle lines kept watch in the surrounding forest with assault rifles.

Sihanouk joined the Khmer Rouge in the coalition because of its military might even though it killed hundreds of thousands of

people, including members of his own family, when it ruled Cambodia from 1975 until the Vietnamese invasion in 1978. The Khmer Rouge fields 30,000 to 40,000 guerrillas, according to Western estimates.

Thailand's Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan has proposed in recent talks with Sihanouk and Hun Sen that they agree to a ceasefire before the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia. Vietnam has pledged to remove all its estimated 50,000 to 70,000 troops by Sept. 30.

Both Sihanouk and Hun Sen said they agreed to Chatichai's proposal. But Khieu Samphan said a ceasefire could only be part of an overall solution to the conflict.

"We cannot accept a ceasefire that keeps in place a puppet regime," he said, referring to the pro-Vietnamese government in Phnom Penh.

"Once there is an international commission to supervise the Vietnamese pullout, then there will be a ceasefire, not before," he said.

Sihanouk said in Jakarta that he no longer demanded the complete dismantling of the Hun

Sen government before a general election is held.

But Khieu Samphan insisted Monday on the simultaneous dismantling of the Hun Sen and resistance governments. He said a new provisional government "should be formed outside the framework of the two regimes."

Khieu Samphan has been the Khmer Rouge spokesman in recent years, but longtime leader Pol Pot is still believed to wield actual power.

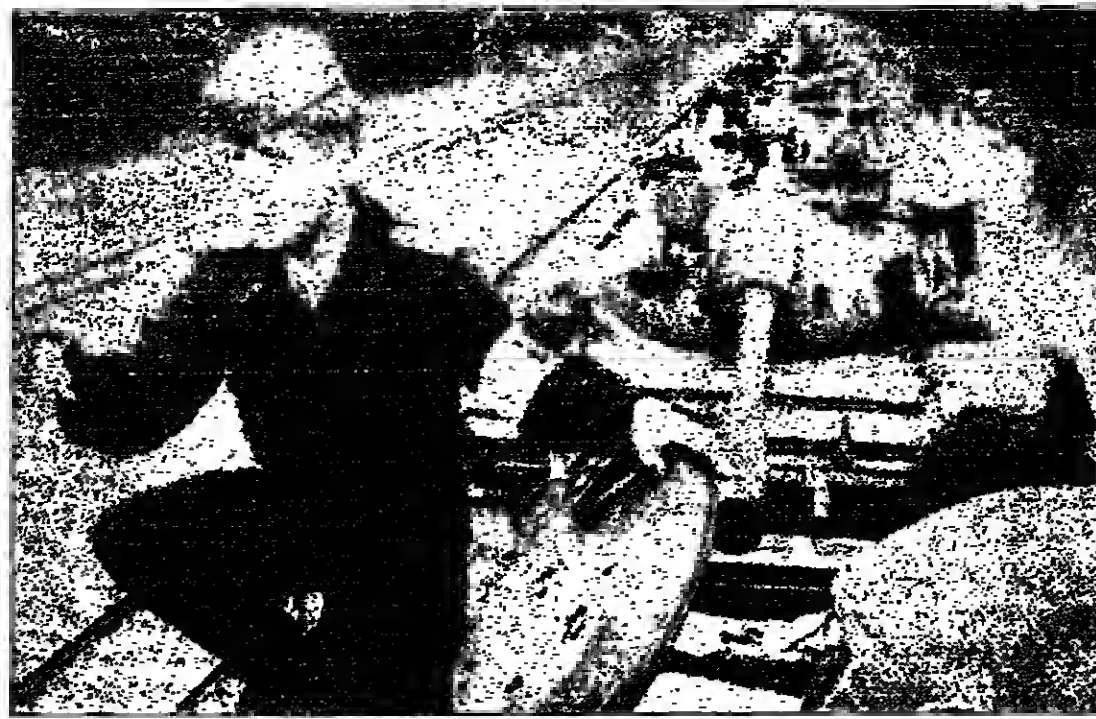
Hun Sen has ruled out Khmer Rouge participation in any new provisional government. Sihanouk said that in Jakarta, Hun Sen urged him to unite their armies and defeat the Khmer Rouge.

The prince Monday left open the possibility he would abandon the Khmer Rouge and join Hun Sen. He said he would decide by November.

But Sihanouk said that as long as Vietnamese troops remain in Cambodia, he would insist that Hun Sen allow the Khmer Rouge a place in a four-party provisional government. The fourth member would be the non-communist guerrilla group, the Khmer People's National Liberation Front.

Sihanouk said he did not believe his and Hun Sen's forces could wipe out the Khmer Rouge.

He said he was insisting on a quadripartite government "not as an accomplice of the Khmer Rouge but because I have to be realistic."



An East German army officer riding atop a T-55A tank, one of 31 that were being demobilised in the northwestern part of the country as East Germany began a series of cuts in its forces last week.

Cheney links U.S. troops in Europe to short-range missiles

WASHINGTON (R) — Defence Secretary Dick Cheney, entering a stormy debate that divides the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) allies, says he could not see a commitment of U.S. troops to protect Europe unless they were backed by short-range nuclear weapons.

President George Bush refuses to accept a Soviet proposal for immediate talks on reducing short-range nuclear weapons in Europe — insisting, instead, that the size of conventional forces be reduced before negotiations begin on nuclear arms.

"I would argue strenuously that we do not foresee a set of circumstances in which you would have U.S. troops deployed in Western Europe, where you would not also have as a significant component of deterrence nuclear weapons, short-range nuclear weapons," Cheney said Sunday. "That's a fact of life."

"We clearly are pursuing now in the arms control arena reduction in conventional superiority that the Soviets possess," he said in a U.S. television interview.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who wants immediate talks on reducing nuclear forces, has been pressing for immediate East-West talks on reducing the number of missiles with a range of up to 500 kilometres.

Washington and Britain fear such talks could lead prematurely to the elimination of nuclear arms in Europe — the so-called "third zero" option. They claim Western Europe would then be easy prey to superior Soviet conventional forces.

"We should not be now involved in the business of trying to embark on negotiations that could result in a third zero," Cheney said.

Congressman Les Aspin, powerful chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, warned a prolonged debate could generate calls in Congress for withdrawing U.S. troops from Europe.

If "there is a sentiment to go to the third zero, elimination of all nuclear weapons, I think the issue of no-nukes no-troops starts to get into the forefront," he said

on the same programme. "It is a danger," Aspin said. "It's not this year, but I could see it down the line."

Cheney argued that "short-range nuclear weapons are a key element in our strategy in Western Europe, and for us now to enter into negotiations that could result in a third zero would be a very serious mistake and undermine the basic strategy of the alliance."

Paul Nitze, the senior U.S. arms control negotiator for former president Ronald Reagan, also said on the programme that the United States should "be cautious but be imaginative."

Nitze said the U.S. demands for a modernisation of the Lance missile while refusing to enter the talks on the short-range weapons puts undue pressure on Bonn.

"This issue is apt to pull Germany apart and NATO apart," he warned. "And I think it's important that we address that issue right now... we must be more understanding of the real problem that faces Germany."

Explosion rocks car of former minister in Athens

ATHENS (AP) — A senior Socialist Party official was injured Monday when a powerful car bomb exploded next to his automobile as he was being driven to his central Athens office.

Former Public Order Minister George Petros, 42, was rushed to a nearby hospital where doctors operated to remove glass shards from his face and upper body.

A hospital spokesman, who requested anonymity, said Petros was not seriously injured and was conscious.

Two police officers inside Petros' late model maroon sedan were also rushed to hospital with slight injuries. Police identified the two men as Yiannis Karachalios, the driver, and Christoforos Savakis, a bodyguard.

The explosion, triggered by a remote-controlled radio device, occurred at 9:17 a.m. (0617 GMT), a few metres away from the former minister's house in the plush suburb of Philothei.

The bomb had been placed inside a parked red Toyota Corolla and the force of the explosion destroyed the car and two other cars parked along the narrow tree-lined street.

A smouldering engine block and an aluminium alloy wheel were all that remained of the booby-trapped car, pieces of which were found on the roof of a house more than 100 metres away.

"It's a miracle Petros survived the blast and got away with such few injuries," said a senior police officer.

Police attributed Petros' survival to the fact that the bomb must have been triggered "just after his car had driven by."

Bomb experts speculated that cement bags were piled up at the side of the car to channel the force of the blast towards Petros' automobile. A thin layer of cement powder covered the area.

COLUMBIA

Jackson campaigns for Brown interview

COLUMBIA, South Carolina (AP) — The Rev. Jesse Jackson says jailed soul singer James Brown should be allowed to give a television interview to the French government as part of its bicentennial celebration. Jackson visited Brown at State Park Correctional Centre and asked that the singer be allowed to give the interview. "James Brown's musical contribution has earned him that honour," Jackson, an unsuccessful candidate last year for the Democratic presidential nomination, said after meeting with Brown. Brown is serving a six-year sentence for aggravated assault and failing to stop for police during a chase across the Georgia-South Carolina border Sept. 26. The French Ministry of Culture asked for the interview through Los Angeles record producer Quincy Jones, who in turn asked Jackson for help. Jackson forwarded the request to South Carolina Governor Carroll Campbell.

Maid disclaims link to royal letters

LONDON (AP) — Princess Anne's personal maid says she knows nothing about love letters that disappeared from the princess' briefcase and ended up at a newspaper office. The disclosure that the queen's daughter had received personal letters from royal aide Timothy Laurence, a Royal Navy commander, renewed rumours of trouble in her 15-year-old marriage to former army captain Mark Phillips. Linda Joyce, 30, told the weekly New Statesman magazine that she wanted to clear her name after some newspapers pointed to her as the principal suspect, reporting that she had a falling out with the princess. Miss Joyce said anyone could have stolen the letters, especially since the briefcase has been around the world. She also admitted having arguments with the princess. "You do get angry with people because they do something that affects you," she said. "And I can't say that I am so placid that I never get angry with her."

Rare wine sells for \$28,900

MONTALCINO, Italy (AP) — A show of old wines closed with the sale of a bottle of 1888 Brunello di Montalcino for 40 million lire (\$28,900). The Italian news agency ANSA said. Luigi Piccarozzi, a wine collector and restaurant owner from Florence, said he sold the bottle of Biondi Santi 1888 Brunello di Montalcino to a company that preferred to remain anonymous. The agency said there are only five known bottles of that vintage of the Italian red wine in the country. It said three are still owned by the winery, Biondi Santi, after it gave one last year to Italian President Francesco Cossiga.

\$50m for extra plants

NEW YORK (AP) — Entertainer Merv Griffin is taking his Hollywood know-how to his newly acquired properties on Paradise Island in the Bahamas. Griffin plans to spend \$50 million just to bring in extra plants for three of his hotels. In unveiling plans for the island, of which his resorts International Inc. owns 80 per cent, Griffin said he "fell in love with Paradise Island the minute he saw it," but added, "it still didn't have the look I envisioned." Griffin plans to fix that by enlisting the help of architect and designer Waldo Fernandez, who has helped decorate Griffin's homes as well as those of stars including Elizabeth Taylor, Goldie Hawn, Neil Simon and Sean Connery.

Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	Weather
AMSTERDAM	06	46	20 Clear
ATHENS	09	48	17 Cloudy
BAHRAIN	27	81	33 Clear
BANGKOK	26	79	34 Cloudy
BUENOS AIRES	04	39	17 Clear
CAIRO	16	81	26 Clear
CHICAGO	-02	28	14 Clear
COPENHAGEN	08	46	15 Cloudy
FRANKFURT	02	38	15 Clear
GENEVA	08	49	16 Clear
HONG KONG	23	79	29 Clear
ISTANBUL	08	43	18 Rain
LONDON	11	52	21 Rain
LOS ANGELES	18	81	29 Cloudy
MADRID	07	45	28 Cloudy
MECCA	21	81	28 Clear
MIAMI	23	79	29 Clear
MONTREAL	09	45	25 Clear
MOSCOW	06	47	21 Clear
NEW DELHI	21	78	28 Clear
NEW YORK	08	48	16 Clear
PARIS	08	49	17 Clear
ROME	10	50	21 Clear
TOKYO	12	54	22 Clear
VIENNA	07	45	18 Clear

Takeshita succession said to hinge on Nakasone testimony

TOKYO (Agencies) — The successor to Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita will be named this week but the top candidate is holding former Premier Yasuhiro Nakasone testify to parliament on the Recruit scandal, a Takeshita aide said.

"My understanding is that there will be a breakthrough on the succession this week," the senior aide said Monday, but the question of Takeshita's predecessor Nakasone testifying was "a very delicate question."

Masayoshi Ito, a 75-year-old veteran of the ruling party and a former foreign minister and caretaker prime minister, is the man tipped to succeed Takeshita who said April 25 he would resign over the shares-for-favours scandal.

It also wants a free hand to fill the cabinet and top party posts, the aide said.

A government official who last week travelled with Takeshita on a five-nation trip to South-East Asia confirmed Ito was holding out over the Nakasone testimony issue. Nakasone allegedly received unlisted shares from Re-

cruit Company in return for favours.

Ito has repeatedly refused the premiership, ostensibly due to poor health, but the aide said Takeshita would pursue him until he agreed.

"I don't see any alternative to Ito," he said.

Despite intense opposition and ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) pressure, Nakasone has refused to testify under oath but has agreed to simply answer questions.

Takeshita held a series of meetings with government and ruling party officials Monday to discuss the selection of a new prime minister.

"We will settle this matter as soon as we can. The procedures are being decided in today's meetings," Kyodo News Service quoted him as saying.

Takeshita asked Shintaro Abe, secretary general of the LDP, to coordinate the selection process, the Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK) reported. It said Abe would meet with party elders Tuesday in an attempt to form a consensus on a new leader.

On appointments, the Takeshita aide said Ito was angry when last week Japanese newspapers reported likely members of his future cabinet and top LDP posts.

"He wants to have a free hand," the aide said.

The government official said Takeshita's camp was meanwhile trying to allay any impression that it was commandeering the succession decision process.

"They don't want to look like they're putting Ito into the arena," he said. "They don't want to be seen flexing their muscles to bring Ito in but in reality they want to keep the reins as much as possible."

Takeshita said during his trip that ended Sunday he would personally ask Ito this week to succeed him.

Ito, who was briefly caretaker prime minister in 1980, is generally seen as untainted by the Recruit scandal.

Recruit, a property and telecommunications company, gave huge donations of money and unlisted stock to top politicians in exchange for favours.

Seoul pursues crackdown

SEOUL (AP) — Police arrested a dissident leader Monday as part of a crackdown on anti-government groups. The Defence Ministry said it would block some of the industries.

Police announced the arrest of Lee Chang-Bok, a leader of the nation's main dissident alliance, the United National Democratic Movement, on charges of violating national security laws. Officials said Lee had supported North Korea and organised strikes and violent demonstrations.

The arrest came as part of government efforts to crack down on dissent following the death of a radical student leader in the southern port city of Pusan. Lee was the fourth alliance leader to be arrested, along with dozens of other dissidents.

President Roh Tae-Woo warned May 3 he might have to invoke emergency measures to halt a wave of violent protests and strikes. He charged that dissi-

dents were attempting to stage a leftist revolution under the control of North Korea.

Roh was to hold a cabinet meeting Tuesday to discuss further measures to curb protests and break up anti-government groups, officials said.

The Defence Ministry warned Monday it would use "strong countermeasures" to keep strategic industries running if they are hit by strikes. The ministry did not specify any actions, but officials have said troops could be used to keep defence and other important industries running.

Defence officials, who declined to be identified by name, said strikes in defence industries were illegal and warned that anyone organising labour unrest would be severely punished.

South Korea has been hit by a wave of violent anti-government protests and labour strikes. The government has warned that efforts by radicals to build an alliance with workers could threaten political and economic

stability. The government says strikes have cost the economy almost \$4 billion in lost production so far this year.

South Korean newspapers reported Monday that Roh would reshuffle his cabinet and remove some ministers for failing to handle violent protests and labour unrest.

Opposition leader Kim Dae-Jung called over the weekend for the entire cabinet to resign to accept responsibility for the political situation.

The main opposition parties, which generally do not support the radicals, have called for curbs on violent protest, but also have charged that the government is trying to use the unrest as an excuse to crack down on all opponents.

Education Ministry officials said Monday they would close university student newspapers and other publications that publish leftist or pro-North Korean articles.

'Last queen' of Korea is laid to rest

SEOUL (R) — Resolutely republican South Koreans paid final tribute Monday to a Japanese princess who, if things had worked out differently, would have been their queen.

The body of 87-year-old Yi Pang-Ja, who died April 30, was borne through the streets of Seoul on a richly decorated bier surrounded by carved dragons and brightly coloured lanterns.

An honour guard of the national police, in modern green uniforms, walked alongside.

Princess Pang-Ja was buried later Monday near the tomb of her husband, the last crown prince of Korea's Yi Dynasty (1392-1910), north-east of the capital.

Prince Yi Eun had nominally

succeeded to the throne in 1925 on the death of his half-brother King Sunjong, but by then the peninsula was under Japanese colonial rule and the monarchy was history.

There were glimpses of the pageantry of a bygone age as Monday's solemn funeral procession set out, led by 20 girls in dresses of mourning white, carrying between them a huge flag of the Republic of Korea.

They were followed by old men in black traditional Hanbok robes while court shoes — all except one who wore sneakers — archers in multi-coloured uniforms, and musicians in yellow with blue sashes and plumed hats, bearing long trumpets, conch shells and drums.

Another contingent of mourners carried a forest of banners, most bearing Chinese inscriptions but some with golden dragons.

As the cortege left the high, double-roofed gate of the Changdokkung Palace, where the princess had lived her last years, the streets outside fell silent.

Huge traffic jams build up but Seoul's usually pugnacious drivers refrained from sounding their horns.

It was a mark of respect for a woman who, in her later years, devoted much time and effort to charitable work for the mentally and physically disabled.

Born Princess Nashimoto Masako in Tokyo in November 1901, she grew up in an expan-

sionist Japan which after years of manoeuvring finally annexed the Korean Peninsula in 1910.

In 1920 the Japanese government obliged the princess to marry the Korean crown prince, thinking in this way — as she later wrote — to ensure complete, final control over the peninsula.

The couple had a first son who died in infancy, apparently poisoned by Korean court officials opposed to the union with Japan.

A second son, Yi Gu, was born 10 years later. Though technically heir to the non-existent Korean throne, he lives as a commoner in Japan.

Yi Gu presided at his mother's funeral ceremonies Monday.

Drug cult leader ordered own death

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The ringleader of a drug-smuggling cult that killed 15 people ordered his own slaying when police closed in on him, the cult's alleged "high priestess" said Sunday.

Adolfo de Jesus Constanzo, the cult's ringleader, was found dead after a gunbattle with Mexico City police Saturday night and his companion Sara Aldrete, the cult's alleged priestess, was arrested.

Aldrete, 24, told reporters Sunday that Constanzo ordered an associate, Alvaro de Leon Valdez, to kill him and his right-hand man, Martin Quintana, after police appeared outside the apartment building where they were staying.

Constanzo, the alleged "godfather" of the cult, and Aldrete had been sought in an international manhunt and are believed to have masterminded the activi-

ties of the drug-smugglers who killed 15 people in a series of ritualistic sacrifices and slayings.

Aldrete, de Leon Valdez and three others arrested after the Saturday night shootout at the apartment were presented to reporters Sunday at the Mexico City attorney general's office.

"He went crazy, crazy" when police came, said de Leon Valdez, referring to the cult ringleader.

"He grabbed a bundle of money and threw it and began shooting out the window," said de Leon Valdez, who has long blond hair and a beard. "He said everything, everything was lost."

De Leon Valdez said Constanzo hit him in the face when he resisted an order to kill the ringleader.

"He ordered (de Leon Valdez) to kill him because it was the end and he wanted to die with Martin," Aldrete said, who referred

to Constanzo, 26, as El Padrino, or the "godfather."

De Leon Valdez said the young American was killed with a machete chop to the head. His back was opened to remove his spinal column for a necklace, he said.

Aldrete told authorities Constanzo invited her to join "Christian Santeria" and asked her to use voodoo to help people with problems, said Abraham Polo Uscanga, deputy city attorney general. She said Constanzo initiated her into the cult in 1988.

Santeria is a blend of Catholicism and old African beliefs that includes animal sacrifices.

Asked if she was in love with Constanzo, Aldrete said, "No, but I followed him."

De Leon Valdez said he met Constanzo while working as a labourer on a northern Mexico ranch. He said he was "marked" for divine protection in January

at a ceremony in Mexico City because he had killed someone in Matamoros. Pulling back his shirt, he showed reporters a design of arrows on each upper arm.

Constanzo and Aldrete, missing since the first 12 bodies were uncovered on the ranch April 11, were among 11 people charged in the United States in a four-count drug indictment.

Aldrete, de Leon Valdez and the others were being held in Mexico on charges including homicide, criminal association, wounding a police agent in the arrest, and damage to property, Polo said.

Also arrested Saturday were Maria del Rocio Cuevas Guerra, 43, of Mexico City, who told authorities she loaned Constanzo \$2,000; Omar Francisco Orea, 23, a journalism student at the National University; and Maria de Lourdes Bueno Lopez, 29,

Zurich's pawnshop is a losing bank with a heart

By David Christian-Edwards
Reuter

ZURICH — Switzerland's biggest pawnshop is a bank with a heart.

Zurich's Pfandleihkasse is run as a charity by the publicly-owned Cantonal Bank. Its loans are so cheap that it always makes a loss.

The bank's motto is: "We lend to everyone who needs it." It is a public utility, who will take almost anything which has resale value as security.

His strongrooms bulge with valuables worth 20 million Swiss francs (\$11.9 million) — ranging from expensive jewel-

lery, furs, and oriental rugs to bicycles, clocks, radios, cameras and even a large Swiss cow bell.

Borrowing is simpler at the shop than at a bank. No awkward questions are asked about income or creditworthiness.

The customer enters through automatic doors into a small vestibule to wait under the gaze of a security camera until one of five cubicles becomes free.

Once in the cubicle, door closed for privacy, the article offered as security is displayed to a clerk behind a bullet-proof screen. If it is accepted, the

customer can be out of the shop with the loan in five minutes.

The only documents required are an identity card and, if possible, a receipt or insurance certificate proving ownership, to protect the shop against receiving stolen goods.

The five staff serve up to 10,000 customers a year and can value most articles quickly. With more complicated loans, for example involving a lot of gems, outside experts are consulted.

Switzerland has no privately-owned pawnshops because they are not a commercial proposition. Pawnshops are by law allowed to charge interest of only one per cent a month,

not enough to cover the cost of administering a large number of small loans.

As a result the country has only three pawnshops, all publicly owned and subsidised. Their credit terms are highly competitive compared with loan rates of up to 18 per cent a year charged by banks, but all three operate in the red.

Last year's loss at the Zurich Pfandleihkasse was 275,000 Swiss francs (\$164,000) on total lending of 9.12 million Swiss francs (\$5.43 million).

Despite the losses, Mueller says the Cantonal Bank is required by law to run a pawnshop.

"The need for the shop is proven," he adds.

A third of the loans are for around 500 Swiss francs (\$300), and a fifth for less than 100 francs (\$60). Only 10 per cent are for more than 1,000 francs (\$600).

Established in 1872, the pawnshop has moved premises six times and has been located in a modern block near the city centre since last November.

Losses are kept to a minimum by efficient use of computers for keeping accounts and printing pawn receipts.

Once dubbed the "poor people's bank," to shop's clientele is now more mixed and includes the well-to-do as well as needy.

Many customers return each month.

not make their wages last a full four weeks. Typically such a client will hock a gold watch to borrow 300 to 500 Swiss francs (\$180